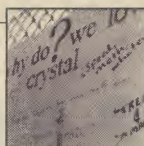


Like mother, like daughter:
Adoptee and mom, both lesbians,
find and come out to each other.

page 18

Crystal blue persuasion
'Talking wall' raises
awareness of meth use.

page 14



Butch Queen Latifah
plays tough lesbian in
F. Gary Gray's Set It Off.

see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 26 • No. 46 • 14 November 1996

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Dornan defeated?

by Dennis Conkin

At Bay Area Reporter press time, anti-gay Orange County Republican Congressman Robert Dornan appeared headed for a surprise defeat in the 46th Congressional District, according to a November 12 count of absentee ballots.

Dornan is expected to demand a recount of the vote that puts a dramatic end to his controversial 20-year career as a right-wing California politician.

According to the *Los Angeles Times*, Dornan's Democratic opponent Loretta Sanchez is nearly 1,000 votes ahead of Dornan, and she has claimed victory in the race.

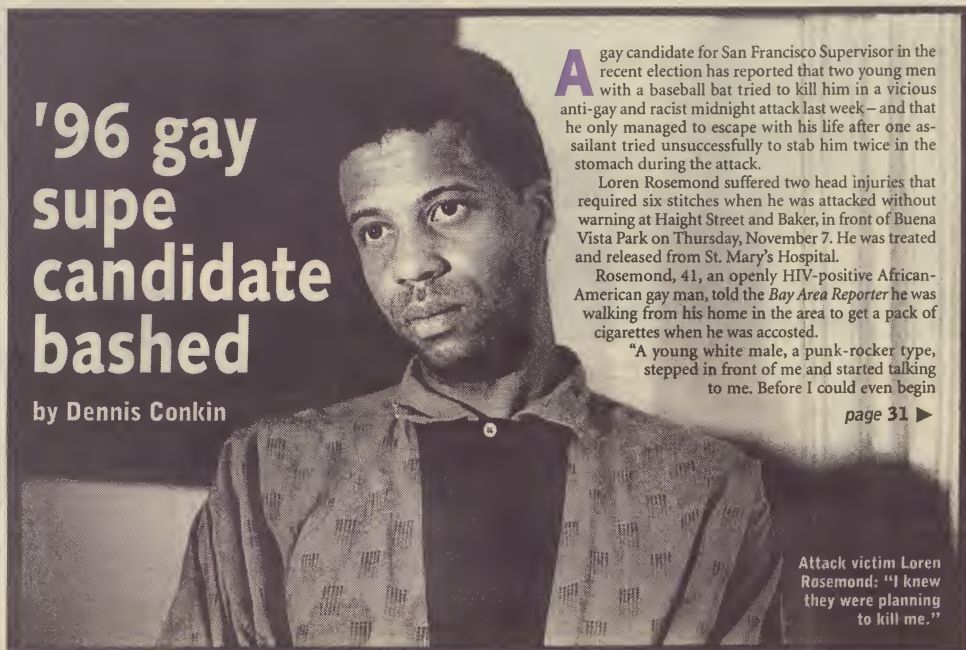
"Goliath has been slain," quipped Sanchez spokesman John Shallman when the absentee ballot count was announced.

Until the absentee ballots were counted in the extremely close election, Sanchez had been trailing Dornan by a mere 256 votes, according to the *Times*.

Sanchez supports a balanced budget amendment to the US Constitution, "three strikes" laws, and the death penalty.

A former Air Force fighter pilot, Dornan was first elected to the House in 1977 and is considered the most virulently anti-gay member of the entire House of Representatives. ▼

For more information about the recent elections, see pages 26-27.



'96 gay supe candidate bashed

by Dennis Conkin

A gay candidate for San Francisco Supervisor in the recent election has reported that two young men with a baseball bat tried to kill him in a vicious anti-gay and racist midnight attack last week—and that he only managed to escape with his life after one assailant tried unsuccessfully to stab him twice in the stomach during the attack.

Loren Rosemond suffered two head injuries that required six stitches when he was attacked without warning at Haight Street and Baker, in front of Buena Vista Park on Thursday, November 7. He was treated and released from St. Mary's Hospital.

Rosemond, 41, an openly HIV-positive African-American gay man, told the *Bay Area Reporter* he was walking from his home in the area to get a pack of cigarettes when he was accosted.

"A young white male, a punk-rocker type, stepped in front of me and started talking to me. Before I could even begin

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Attack victim Loren Rosemond: "I knew they were planning to kill me."

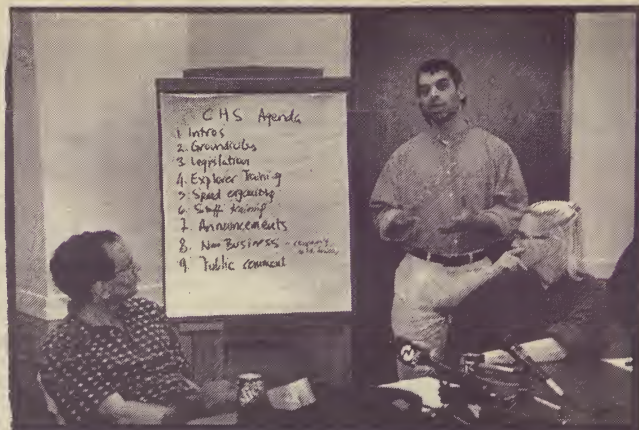
Gregory H. Fletcher

Proposed sex club regs shelved

by Liz Highleyman

A proposal to enact legislation regulating San Francisco sex clubs was put on hold Tuesday, November 12 following a media frenzy that put the spotlight on a process that has been underway for nearly two years. The legislation—sponsored by Supervisor Tom Ammiano and crafted by the Coalition for Healthy Sex (CHS), members of the Department of Public Health (DPH), and the city attorney—would have codified safety, hygiene, and safer sex regulations for commercial "congregate sex environments." The media followed the story after it broke in the *Bay Area Reporter* three weeks ago, with local print and broadcast outlets—as well as national and even international media—playing up the titillation angle of gay public sex; the mainstream media generally reacted as if they were unaware of the existence of gay sex clubs, several of which have been in operation for many years.

Tuesday's regularly scheduled meeting of the CHS—a group of sex club and party operators, HIV prevention educators, and public health representatives—was packed to overflowing. Dr. Mitchell Katz, Director of the DPH AIDS Office, stated that he and DPH director Sandra Hernandez had met with Mayor Willie Brown last week and de-



SF AIDS Office Director Dr. Mitch Katz speaks at a meeting of the Coalition for Healthy Sex.

Rick Gerhardt

clined that instead of formal legislation, regulation of sex clubs should be accomplished by health department guidelines.

Regulation of sex clubs will be accomplished by health department guidelines.

Although Brown had previously expressed support for formal legislation, he backtracked in the face of public attention to the issue. According to Katz, the "vast ma-

jority" of sex clubs in the city already operate in a manner that promotes public health, and it doesn't make sense to institute legislation to deal with the few that do not. The DPH will conduct "more frequent, regular, proactive monitoring" of clubs and "more rigorous enforcement"; currently the DPH

only inspects clubs when a complaint is received. The DPH will have the authority to "abate," or close, sex clubs that are noncompliant.

Katz stated that while the DPH has no jurisdiction over private sexual activity in people's homes, it does have "an interest in and a right to regulate sexual activity in for-profit congregate sex businesses." Katz made an analogy with health regulations that inspect for rodents in restaurants, but not in the kitchens of private homes. Katz emphasized that "our issue is making sure sex clubs are safe, not regulating sexual behavior," and claimed that there has been "no reference"

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Broker sued for assaulting 'little faggot pussy' co-worker

by Dennis Conkin

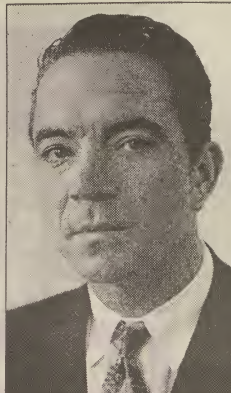
A San Francisco gay man who said he was attacked and beaten by a co-worker at a California Street securities firm last February 20 has filed a lawsuit against his alleged assailant.

Jeff Dendy, formerly of HJ Meyers and Company, alleges in a civil lawsuit that he was so badly beaten by HJ Meyers stockbroker Paul Garvey that he had to have surgery to repair a torn rotator cuff and still continues to suffer from emotional distress.

The vicious anti-gay attack is a dramatic portrayal of the rising problem of workplace violence in America, and San Francisco is not immune to the problem, according to Dendy's attorney, William E. Weiss of Livingston and Weiss.

"It's outrageous. There is a recent rise in this kind of crime," Weiss told the *Bay Area Reporter*, citing statistics that seven percent of reported anti-gay hate crimes reported nationally are violence-in-the-workplace incidents.

Dendy's suit alleges that Garvey attacked him after a morning of escalating tension between them — and after continually badgering Dendy about fixing his



Jeff Dendy

malfunctioning work station computer.

Dendy admits that he grew impatient with the stockbroker and called him a "fat fuck" and told him he'd fix the problem when he had the first chance. After that, he alleged, the broker responded by erupting into a vio-

Dendy told the *Bay Area Reporter* that immediately after the February incident he wanted to file a police assault and battery report, but said his supervisor at HJ Meyers & Company tried to talk him out of it.

"He said that I just wanted to take it to the 'next level' and he didn't think that I should contact police. He said that there could be repercussions. That Paul could hire someone to come and beat me up. I felt threatened. It was an attempt to intimidate me," Dendy said.

But, Dendy said, he would not be dissuaded.

"On the Friday morning of the same week, I went to the police station at Mission and 17th and filed the report," he told the *B.A.R.*

'Constructive discharge'

Dendy says his attorney advised him that he had been "constructively discharged" as a result of the workplace violence and that he should in no way return to his job because of the personal safety issues.

Dendy took a leave from the firm the day after the incident —

"How does it feel to be bitch-slapped?" broker Paul Garvey allegedly yelled during the attack.

lent, physical rage.

"Do you want to go? I'm going to bring you down a notch, you little faggot pussy. How does it feel to be bitch-slapped?" broker Paul Garvey allegedly yelled during the attack.

Dendy said that Garvey grabbed his arms and shoved him as hard as he could, and that he struck a desk as he fell to the floor.

The attack continued, but Garvey was pulled off and taken into another area of the office, Dendy, who sought medical assistance following the attack, required surgery to fix the shoulder injury.

"It was devastating. It's very scarring emotionally," he said.

Dendy also has an estimated \$12,000 in medical bills from the assault, according to his attorney.

which was also the day he was hired by Prudential Insurance, where he is currently employed.

"Everyone here [at Prudential] is just as nice as they could be. There's not any kind of anti-gay sentiment," Dendy said.

Dendy had previously complained about the anti-gay environment at Meyers' California office, according to the lawsuit, which alleges that Meyers failed to address his complaints — and also failed to adequately investigate the attack by the stockbroker.

Meyers & Company are represented in the case by the Palo Alto law firm Cooley, Godward, which did not respond to *Bay Area Reporter* phone calls.

The lawsuit goes to a status conference in January. ▼

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"A matter of fairness": Supervisor Leslie Katz explains the new law at a Nov. 8 press conference while (l to r) Mayor Brown, Susan Leal and Tom Ammiano look on.

San Francisco is 'first' again Brown signs historic domestic partner law

by Cynthia Laird

San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown signed historic domestic partner legislation Friday, November 8, meaning that businesses having contracts with the city will be required to offer benefits to domestic partners of employees if they are offered to spouses of employees.

The bill was unanimously adopted by the Board of Supervisors on Monday, November 4 and was forwarded to Brown for his signature, which had been expected. San Francisco becomes the first city in the nation to enact such a law.

The ordinance amends the city's administrative code and is expected to go into effect in about six months. Before that happens, the supervisors are planning to amend the ordinance to clarify the language in an effort to take into account concerns expressed to officials by some business owners.

Brown said those changes will not weaken the law.

Last Friday, Supervisors Tom Ammiano, Leslie Katz, and Susan Leal, sponsors of the ordinance, joined Brown at the signing. The mayor said the new law will make a real difference in the lives of people in the city.

The law applies to any business having a city contract, regardless of whether or not the company is located in San Francisco. However, there are exceptions for firms that may suffer economic hardship or in cases where there are no qualified bidders that comply with the ordinance. Additionally, the law will not apply to state and federal contracts or subcontractors working in the city.

Under the law, any firm hired by the city that offers benefits to an employee's spouse must also offer the same benefits to the domestic partner of an employee. Benefits include health insurance, medical leave, and bereavement leave.

Domestic partners are defined in the law as "any person who has registered a domestic partnership with a governmental body under state or local law authorizing this registration." Couples can be gay or straight.

"This ordinance is already being viewed as a model for other cities," Ammiano said at the signing. "I have received requests for copies of the ordinance from Seattle, Boston, and New York. This is just the next logical step in San Francisco's continuing effort to provide full equality for all of its residents."

Katz said that the law is "simply a matter of fairness."

"This legislation doesn't require anyone to assume additional burdens, it merely forbids unjust discrimination when a business provides employee benefits," she added.

Leal, regarded as an expert in the field of employee benefits, said the law will be good for business. Before becoming a supervisor, Leal advised both corporations and labor on employee benefits.

"Employers find that it is both easy and inexpensive to add benefits for the domestic partners of their employees. Offering these benefits will create a more stable and satisfied work force by promoting true equity in the workplace," said Leal.

The legislation was first presented to the supervisors in May by members of the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democratic Club. At a recent board meeting, Katz noted the club's involvement with the ordinance.

"We in the Harvey Milk Club have worked very hard to secure recognition of our relationships and full legal equality since we sponsored the first domestic partners proposal in 1982," said Jeff Sheehy, club president. "This model legislation represents an important next step in ending discrimination against lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and transgender people." ▼

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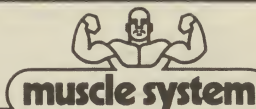
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You think you have car trouble?

SF gay man alleges abuse at used car lot

by Dennis Conkin

When San Francisco resident Bob Runkel decided to buy a used station wagon to help him move to Daly City, he didn't imagine that the car would turn out to be a proverbial lemon—or that officials at the car dealership would allegedly call him anti-gay names when he tried to return it. Nevertheless, he says, that is exactly what happened.

Runkel told the *Bay Area Reporter* that a few days after he bought the 1979 Oldsmobile Cutlass station wagon for \$1,600 at Trader Joe's Used Cars—which is not affiliated with the chain of retail food stores—the car broke down in busy traffic. He said he had it towed back to the dealership, where it now languishes because the dealer allegedly wouldn't give it back to him.

According to Runkel, the left front tire came off as he was motoring up Franklin Street—ironically, just after having the car examined by a friend's mechanic who said the car should not be driven because it seemed to be having trouble with its bearings.

"The whole driver's side tire fell off," he said. "There were people screaming. The tire hit a



Such a deal: Trader Joe's Used Cars at 14th and Valencia streets.

parked car."

Runkel said that after he had the car towed to the Valencia Street dealership, a worker told him whoever repaired the brakes didn't like him, because someone had loosened the lug nuts. When he told the dealership that he'd only driven the car 200 miles, and that he held them responsible because they had been the last people to repair the car, the alleged anti-gay insults began.

"Get the fuck out of here, faggot," Runkel said a Trader Joe official told him. "Listen queer, we won't have any trouble getting money out of you. Get this fucking car off the lot, faggot."

He said that two other staffers suddenly appeared in the lot bearing tire irons, and he fled the site.

The next day, when Runkel called and said he was going to have the car towed from the lot, he was told in no uncertain terms that the dealership was keeping the car.

Attorney Amy Treanor said that her efforts to assist Runkel in getting his car back were fruitless—first because Trader Joe's denied refusing to return the car, and then, when pressed, simply hung up on her.

When contacted by the B.A.R. for a response to the charges, a Trader Joe's staffer hesitated a moment, then said only that Runkel's name failed to ring a bell.

Runkel said that he planned to initiate civil action against the dealership over the hate crime incident. ▼

Shanti to honor volunteers, others at awards dinner Tuesday

by Cynthia Laird

Lighting the Way for the Future," the Shanti Project's eighth annual awards dinner, will be held this Tuesday, November 19 in San Francisco. The event will honor eight Bay Area leaders for their significant contributions to Shanti and to the city's AIDS community.

The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. and will be held at the Hyatt San Francisco at Embarcadero Center. It will feature a cocktail reception and silent auction, followed by dinner and the program. Awards will be presented to Dr. Lenny Simpson, who's receiving special honors; Shanti volunteers Randy Algaier, Kristine Joonkinson, and Joe Pasalodos; Shanti community partners Broneck, Phleger and Harrison, and Kathleen Mason; and Shanti "Testimony of Spirit" honorees Hazel Betsey and Sinead Corwin.

Shanti, a nonprofit organization, serves people with AIDS and their loved ones. The agency is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life, improving the sense of well-being, and promoting the independence of people living with HIV disease and AIDS.

Shanti was one of the nation's first community-based, peer-support HIV/AIDS caregiving organizations, and has served as a model for over 300 agencies that have volunteers who work directly with people living with HIV/AIDS.

Tickets for the dinner are \$150 per person. ▼

For tickets or more information, call Doren Martin at (415) 487-4764.

Gay bashers sentenced to a year in jail

by Dennis Conkin

Two convicted assailants will serve one-year terms in county jail following their Wednesday, November 6 convictions on misdemeanor gay bashing crimes.

In addition to jail time for John Cody Lee and Jonathan Bell, Municipal Court Judge Julie Tang further stipulated they pay a fine, pay financial restitution of costs to the victim, undergo counseling and sensitivity training, and apologize – not just to victim Ronald Bennett, but also apologize to the entire San Francisco lesbian and gay community through a statement to be published in the *Bay Area Reporter*. The *B.A.R.* will donate its fee to a charity.

Lee and Bell were convicted by a jury of misdemeanor charges for a vicious October 1995 attack on Bennett in Norfolk Alley as he was

leaving The Lone Star Saloon, a popular South of Market gay bar.

The duo were part of an East Bay group of young adults who had come to San Francisco, they claimed, to celebrate Lee's 21st birthday at a South of Market bar.

Bell and Lee and two other assailants jumped out of an auto and participated in a "round robin" attack, where the victim was pushed back and forth between assailants, punched, slugged, and subjected to anti-gay slurs such as "faggot," Bennett testified at trial.

A Vietnam veteran who is a highly skilled clinical operating nurse-member of the University of San Francisco transplant team, Bennett was struck repeatedly in the back of the head and face during the attack.

A female passenger in the car with Bell and Lee yelled out, "Kill the faggot" at one point during the assault, Bennett testified.

Despite efforts of defense coun-

sel to play down the brutal anti-gay episode as merely a misdemeanor, Bennett told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he suffered a concussion from the incident, has continuing memory problems related to the injury, and suffers post-traumatic emotional stress from the violent attack.

"This is the type of crime that outrages people, outrages the city," said prosecutor Christopher Clifford of the firm Zelle and Larson.

Clifford, who usually practices securities law, is "on loan" to the San Francisco District Attorney's office for three months, through a joint public service program of the DA's office, Zelle and Larson, and other major local law firms.

He urged Tang to mete out the maximum sentence of one year behind bars.

Attorneys for the defendants unsuccessfully urged that they serve their terms at home through an electronic ankle residential detention program, or through work furlough.

'It won't happen again'

After conferring with his attorney, Bell apologized to the court for the crime, said that he felt "very badly," promised that "it wouldn't happen again," and stressed that he was a "good candidate for probation."

Attorney Kevin Berman of the San Francisco Public Defender's office
page 28 ►

Men to honor women at Lyon-Martin fundraiser

by Cynthia Laird

During the last 15 years of the AIDS epidemic, the women's community has offered health, assistance, and lots of support to men stricken by the disease. Now the time has come to return the favor, as gay men have joined with other groups for the "Brothers for Sisters Bash" next Friday, November 22 in San Francisco.

The Men's Associated Exchange (MAX), the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), and the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR) are sponsoring the event, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the City Club, located on the tenth floor of 155 Sansome Street, as a benefit for Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services.

The clinic, named after pioneering lesbian activists Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin, offers a full spectrum of healthcare and outreach services. Founded in 1979 as an all-volunteer health clinic for lesbians and bisexual women, Lyon-Martin now provides unbiased, comprehensive and affordable health care to more than 4,000 women each year, nearly 75 percent of whom earn less than \$10,000 per year. The healthcare center also offers a parenting program, which provides education and support for gay, lesbian, and bisexual parents.

At the event, the men's community will honor Dr. Sandra Hernandez, the city's director of public health, and Debra Chasnoff and Helen Cohen, co-producers of the film *It's Elementary - Talking About Gay Issues in School*, for their outstanding contributions to health civil rights and San Francisco culture.

Tickets for the "Brothers for Sisters Bash" are \$75 each. Reservations are preferred, although tickets will be available at the door. ▼

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BAY AREA REPORTER

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It's still prevention

Last weekend, as a few journalists and AIDS advocates met in New York to talk about the direction of HIV reporting after the Vancouver AIDS conference, some found themselves experiencing whiplash. The Sunday Times magazine had published an essay about how the epidemic is becoming visibly less obvious in Andrew Sullivan's life, which provided grist for much comment at Monday's roundtable discussion. Everyone at the table agreed that the new combination therapy and viral load testing have helped to drive the mortality rate down, but the epidemic is still far from over.

In fact, the epidemic reasserted its presence with a vengeance, claiming longtime good friends of at least two of the panelists between the time the paper was published and the discussion group was over. Those participants were reminded, as are countless mourners every day, that every time AIDS steals something so personal as a human life we value it suddenly becomes new and sharp and dangerous all over again.

The epidemic is not over. But fortunately it claims fewer victims and mourners now, as the obituary pages of this paper show. Some of the best news is on non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors, which don't get as much press as protease inhibitors, perhaps because they're so much harder to say on-air. (For more on them, see Rob Sabados' excellent piece on page 29.)

Still, whatever the news from the drugstore, the emphasis must remain on HIV prevention, for many reasons. First, the theory that drug therapy can make AIDS a chronic manageable condition is about as far from certain as the Castro is from Neptune—a comparative speck compared to the infinite universe of our former ignorance about AIDS, but a heck of a schlep even so.

Second, although having a chronic manageable illness is better than having a terminal one, it is not as nice as having none. We aren't saying people are nicer without (or with), but it's obvious life is simpler without insurance bureaucrats to battle, prescriptions to refill, doctor appointments to schedule, and pills to take and take and take and take and take ...forever.

Third, Medicaid. If anyone with HIV (or with a friend with HIV) ignores the Medicaid debate as "someone else's problem," they are imagining a utopia that does not exist. The same goes for the welfare "reform" that

was rammed through Congress and signed by the president in exchange for another term. Count on both issues to be pushed onto our political landscape, if you think they haven't already. As combination therapy becomes a standard of care among all people with AIDS, the decision must be made whether to spend all Ryan White money on drug therapy. If that happens, AIDS housing and other services will have to be folded in with other entitlement programs—welfare. If not, Medicaid may well buckle under from the strain of trying to pick up the slack.

Either way, every new infection will put America's social support system to the test. And relying on the kindness of strangers is unfashionable today, to put it mildly; to put it more bluntly, no one should count on finding support when and where they need it. This country has created an enormous amount of wealth, but it seems to revel in making the unfortunate poor aware that nobody owes them a living.

So the way to avoid the welfare/Medicaid system's indignities and worse is to avoid HIV infection. That means, as has been said so many times before, avoiding unsafe behavior with needles and other

things you might be tempted to stick inside your bodies. Use as much protection as you can; don't worry about overdoing protection, since you can't.

Unfortunately, gay consumers may be denied one weapon that could prove handy in the war against HIV infections. If the Clinton administration's Food and Drug Administration fails to discuss

anal sex at its meeting about anti-HIV microbicides lubricants this week, it will prove this administration is as callous as the previous one. Under President Bush, the FDA scuttled tests on internal condoms for anal sex. For the FDA now to fail to test microbicides anally (since a substance that would kill HIV vaginally might not work rectally) would be a reaffirmation of activists' worst fears: that knowledge is power, and both are being intentionally withheld.

It is disturbing that there is so much talking these days about the existence of sex clubs—as though sex were anything new—and so little discussion about the real things that can be done to make sex safer.

With steady emphasis on prevention, the poor man's vaccine, this damn epidemic doesn't have to take another life. ▼



Editorial



Sex and the military

by Cliff Anchor

If a foreign enemy wanted to undermine our military, it is likely that the enemy would evaluate the psyche of the leadership. Why bother to use nuclear or chemical weapons on our soldiers when just the mention of the very word "sex" sends the Pentagon into a tizzy? The Joint Chiefs of Staff start circulating anti-gay hate videos when it appears Congress and the president may allow gays and lesbians to serve (officially) in our armed forces. No mention, of course, that they have served with distinction for decades, in spite of the silly DOD regulation—an outgrowth of the equal stupidity of the McCarthy era of the late 1940's, during which extremists set up American against American.

In seeming violation of the Code of Military Justice, base commanders—such as the one at Barstowe Army National Training Center—promote such extremist religious and male supremacist groups as The Promise Keepers on a captive audience: recruits in training. On one hand, Army "official policy" is to ensure that women soldiers are treated as equals. But after the Commanding General pushes sexual/religious supremacists on everyone, and promotes Promise Keepers in the base newspaper (the *Tiefort Telegraph*)—what's a soldier gonna do? "God and my Commanding General—and obviously the Pentagon—believe women are second class. And we won't talk about equality for people of color, or those who are gay or lesbian."

The Pentagon Policy toward sex is for the generals to bury their heads in the sand—or a jug of booze in the Barstoolers' Club. DOD has given lip service to soldiers' rights, ranging from soldiers' rights to be free of religious supremacists solicitations via the Base Command officials, to the implementation of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." But the witchhunts still go on, promoted by right-wingers and religious extremists within the American military.

When commanding officers and others down the line exert pressure on recruits and enlisted personnel on such personal matters as religion, sex, politics, and civil rights issues, it should come as no surprise if explosions occur at military bases, such as Aberdeen.

It should also come as no surprise when such right wing extremists who get their training from the military—often with the tacit encouragement of those in the Pentagon—rob military arsenals, arm private militia groups, bomb Federal buildings, and shoot or otherwise murder civilian Americans who are not of their extremist persuasion.

One may well ask what the JAG officials and investigative agencies are doing these days when extremists are being allowed access to ply their hate mongering in a military environment, and one may well ask General Shalikashvili and his staff to explain how they expect the common footsoldier to be "moral," when the Pentagon itself tells gays

and lesbians to lie about their orientation?

Until the "leadership" at the Pentagon begins to pursue a vigorous program to weed out those like General Mundy, who distribute hate mongering videos and tracts aimed at gays, or women, the so-called "cleanup" at Aberdeen is just window dressing. Mundy has gone, but there are more individuals in our military like him and who are, in my opinion, unfit to serve because they are incapable of setting aside their prejudices and following orders.

No, a foreign enemy would need no help at all to undermine the American military.

The Pentagon's foot-dragging on civil rights for all Americans is destroying public trust already. All the enemy has to do is watch and wait, while the foreign newsreels show this ugly side of our Military to the outside world. Sadly, it is the ordinary American who takes the rap for the Pentagon's double-talk and hypocrisy as well as for the ineptitude of its Leaders in riding roughshod over the civil rights of those who choose to serve their country honorably in uniform. ▼

Cliff Anchor is a writer, two-term president of the Monte Rio Chamber of Commerce, a presidential appointee to the Selective Service Board, and civil rights activist. The opinions expressed by Mr. Anchor are Mr. Anchor's opinions.



Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Hurricane Pat

A few years ago during the LA quake, we were shocked and stunned that Pat Robertson had actually blamed the quake on a pornography duplicating business that supposedly was situated on the epicenter. According to Robertson, God was making millions of people suffer because of this one business.

After that, we waited for years for an event to happen, and it finally did. Hurricane Fran smashed into Virginia recently, and we took lots of airtime to point out that there's a business called Appalachian Video that took the brunt of the hurricane because it was probably duplicating Ku Klux Klan videos.

But we were upstaged by a caller who said that the video business actually duplicated the best-selling Jerry Falwell anti-gay videos. We both agreed that God was taking out his wrath on the business, and that both televangelists should immediately repent, before God sends more hurricanes.

Duke & Banner Show
Rio Nido, CA

Fudge-ripple sex

Will Roscoe describes most public S.F. gay male sex as being "in the vertical position," partly clothed, in corners of cold and dark places, where "even sitting down" is forbidden ("Mailstrom," Oct. 31). *Que lastima!*

Aren't there some congenial sex clubs? Could B.A.R. publish a yearly guide? Not just to clubs for men only, but those for womyn only; and clubs where the doors open wider.

Roscoe seeks "a space to linger in, and the possibility of actually relating." I found such possibility at Power Exchange Substation. Catering primarily to womyn and TGs, this mixed "fudge-ripple" (chocolate + vanilla) club also admits considerate people of any gender and any orientation. (Except on Sundays, which are reserved for womyn only.) Regulars may get to know each other, gradually developing a sense of community. Patience helps. Newcomers may wish to start with a Thursday-night workshop.

Now let's see other readers report about more safe-sex clubs which try to be "person-friendly."

Tortuga Bi Liberty
Berkeley, CA

Transgendered 'Sapphistication'

I find it interesting that in the Oct. 11th lesbian column "Sapphistication," the bulk of the column consists of the author, an mtf lesbian (post-op) trashing another author who is an mtf lesbian (non-op) for making different choices about her transition. This was accompanied by the other references in the column being incredibly inaccurate.

Seeing as how the last several "Sapphistication" columns have been focused on the travails of the tg/ts communities, which do indeed need and deserve reporting, is it maybe time to have both a lesbian column, and a transgendered column in the paper?

Please note that I am neither impugning or questioning Ms. Elliott's identity as a lesbian, merely the style and content of her writing and research.

Joi Wolfenn
Oakland, CA

Opera attitude, part I

[The following letter was sent to critic Paul Thomason:]

I have had it up to here with the SF Opera bashing being performed by Joshua Kosman, Alan Ulrich, Ching Chang, and yourself. If Ben Heppner was having an off night in the opening night performance of *Lohengrin*, then I would truly love to hear him on a good night, as his supposedly bad night was sensational. Paying for my seat upstairs, where the sound always drifts to anyway, left me with no doubt that this is one of the great tenors of our day.

Yes, we could have used a swan, plastic, projected, or whatever, and I have been disturbed slightly by some of the flag-waving (banner-waving?) of Prince Igor and *Lohengrin*; however, musically, they were very satisfying evenings.

You expressed a disappointment in what you heard from row P of the orchestra. Pity! If critics paid for their seats and did so upstairs with the real opera fans, then perhaps there would not be such a problem with sound and supertitles, etc.

Too often I get the impression that critics are nothing but frustrated singers or directors with an ax to grind. The greatest disappointment for me, however, is that we no longer have radio broadcasts of the season, which always helped to mitigate your negative reviews. I fear that people from the boondocks who might otherwise be interested in attending might be kept away because of your negative reviews. In this you are not helping the SF Opera one bit.

Irving Waldorf
San Francisco

Opera attitude, part II

[The following was also sent to Paul Thomason:]

Thank you for your insightful and intelligent reviews of San Francisco Opera's productions. I always search the second section of the B.A.R. hoping to find your refreshing commentaries and analyses. Also, I hope you will again offer us your expert knowledge of singers like Kirsten Flagstad on KDFC radio.

Your recent dismay at how in the current season the directors have changed the endings of the operas brought to mind a performance of *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* I attended at the Salle Favart in Paris in 1985 where Bartolo (sung wonderfully by Gabriel Bacquier) was made to die at the end. (Please don't tell John Copley!) I remember how odd I felt leaving the theatre saddened instead of with the ebullient lift Rossini comedies usually provide. I think it is good to bear in mind that SFO is not the only company that fools with the plots and that it could be worse. Indeed, in Europe I have seen some productions where it is hard to recognize the opera which seems totally disconnected from what's going on on stage.

Still, as a 16-year veteran San Francisco opera-goer, it has been difficult for me to watch the quality of the singing, directing, and stagecraft decline while gimmicky tricks are used to lure curious one-time gawkers to pay astronomical ticket prices. It seems to me that the SFO would do better to court its loyal patrons who come back time and again, rather than engaging in cutesy efforts to attract ingenu socialites. Recently I dug out my ticket stub from the 1982 production of *Lohengrin* for which I paid less than half of what I shelled out to attend this year's "Opera in the Barn" production in the equivalent section. What are we paying for?

The fireworks singing of Leonie Rysanek and Hermann Becht as Ortrud and Telramund made that 1982 performance memorable. In contrast, at this season's October 4th performance, which I'll try to forget, Ben Heppner was obviously ill. His voice cracked time and again to the point where he could hardly make it through "In fernem land." I found it hard to believe there wasn't an understudy to replace him. And the most irksome thing about the production was not the lack of the Swan but rather that from where I sat, I could see where the blue carpet of the river Scheldt ended behind the Cost Plus flocked weeds. And would someone please tell the desultory Malcolm Mosher that *Antwerp is in Belgium, not the Netherlands!*

For several seasons I decided to save my money and go to France or Italy rather than sit through any more of San Francisco Opera's cheesy productions. I was fortunate enough to attend a performance of *Simon Boccanegra* at La Fenice before the fire. If I had waited for them to put on this great opera in San Francisco, I'd still be waiting. Just as I would be waiting to see some of my favorites of the French repertoire such as *The Pearl Fishers*, *Lakme*, *Mignon*, and *Le Roi d'Ys* while inconsequential yawners like *Hérodiade* and *Hamlet* find their way to the SFO stage.

As an antidote to my dismay I have developed a sense of humor about the productions and singing. If I hadn't, I don't know how I could continue to attend. The worst of it is you can't boo. I think it's wonderful when they boo the set designers in Milan or Rome. I wish they would bring Gerry Howland out just once so that we could throw vegetables at him. But like those audiences who heartily applaud mediocre *Lohengrins*, everyone's dutifully donned rose-colored glasses in the form of a Prozac or Paxil.

For fun I make up quizzes: i.e. Gerry Howland is incapable of anything more complex than a single icon for his sets. Match the icon with the opera.

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Tannhäuser | a. Pineapple upsidedown cake |
| 2. Hérodiade | b. Sundial |
| 3. Lucia di Lammermoor | c. Matchbook |
| 4. Faust | d. Turkey |
| 5. Hamlet | e. Snake |

[Answers: 1-e, 2-d (that's no peacock), 3-a, 4-b, 5-c.]

Before I go to bed each night I pray to God the San Francisco Opera will be restored to its former splendor.

J.C. Allan
San Francisco

Shitty tactics

I must comment on David Pasquarelli's letter in the Nov. 7 B.A.R. Interestingly, I believe along very similar lines that the AMA and FDA are controlled by and dance to the tune of the pharmaceutical cartel and that the toxic chemicals our community is being seduced into ingesting are killing more of us than the virus they allegedly keep at bay.

That said, I fail to understand how throwing cat shit on someone is supposed to persuade them to consider one's viewpoint. Pasquarelli's tantrum merely demonstrates a severe lack of social skills. The kind of flies he supposedly wants to catch aren't going to be lured with shit.

Jim Ward
San Francisco

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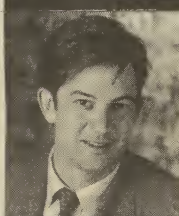
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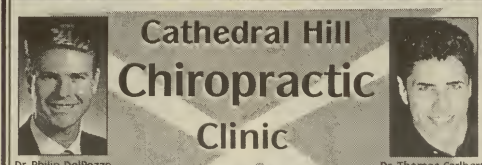
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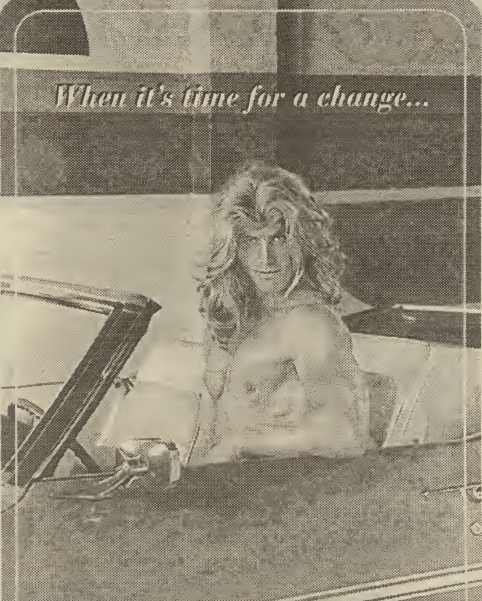
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Hawai'ian punch

Spending a night in beautiful SF on my long trip home from the Names Project exhibition in Washington, I picked up your great paper and happened upon "Dole's California Dreamin'" by Wayne Friday (October 10). As an openly gay man living in Hawai'i for 10 years, I was surprised to read, "Another problem Bob Dole has is that several western states (Nevada, Hawaii (sic), Wyoming, Idaho and Utah), where the Republican nominee should be doing well, are also leaning toward Clinton."

While I realize Hawai'i is a small state, seemingly removed from the major mainland political action, I would tell you this about the politics of Hawai'i:

Since Statehood, Hawai'i has had but one Republican Governor (1957-62). Hawai'i's small Washington delegation of four consists entirely of Democrats — all of whom actively opposed and voted against the "Defense of Marriage Act." Also, Hawai'i recognized Women's Suffrage in 1917 and the U.S. in 1920, Hawai'i was the first state to ratify the ERA, the first to legalize abortion, the third to vote GLBT job protection (City & County of Honolulu for several years prior), and Hawai'i was the second state in the nation to legalize needle exchange.

As director of communications for our current Democratic governor's '94 campaign, past assistant secretary of the Democratic party of Hawai'i (5th highest Party position) and co-chair of the Party Communications Committee, I am also pleased to tell you that my openly gay associate from Kau'ai, Martin Rice, is being named the Party's first vice-chair (2nd highest Party position). Suffice to say, I don't worry too much about Hawai'i only "leaning toward Clinton" or going Republican in the near future.

P.S.: Please keep all of this to yourself. If it all got out, every queer in the world so disposed might move to "Paradise" to get married — and you know what that would do to the property values.

Scott Foster
Honolulu, Hawai'i

NWAF responds

Edward Zold's Oct. 3 article in the *B.A.R.* implied that the Northwest AIDS Foundation's public policy department would rather help the pharmaceutical industry line its pockets than advocate for affordable drugs for individuals living with HIV/AIDS. The facts speak for themselves.

In July of this year, the Washington State Department of Health shut down the state's AIDS Prescription Drug Program (APDP), which is our state's ADAP, due to a projected budget shortfall. This sparked a massive controversy between public health officials and AIDS advocates, as well as understandable panic among APDP enrollees. The Department of Health ceased all new enrollment procedures, and limited access to protease inhibitors to those who were already utilizing them. One month later, due to public outcry and advocacy efforts spearheaded by NWAF, Washington's governor reopened the APDP with no new restrictions, and authorized an additional \$5 million for the program.

As the director of public policy at NWAF, I was deeply involved in the process to secure unrestricted drug access to APDP clients, both present and future. Our response has helped make Washington State a model for shaping a national response to the ADAP budget crisis. NWAF's efforts helped convince Washington State's Senator Patty Murray (D) and Representative Jennifer Dunn (R) to provide critical support for national ADAP funding increases. NWAF also helped to initiate a statewide survey of insurance companies, conducted by the State Office of the Insurance Commissioner, to determine which plans provide coverage for protease inhibitors, and how to institute guidelines for private insurance companies that would guarantee coverage of expensive HIV/AIDS treatments. This is not the record of an agency that has sold out to pharmaceutical companies on the issue of drug access.

NWAF understands the concerns expressed by Mr. Zold in his article, yet his accusations were completely unfounded. AIDS service organizations and AIDS activists around the country need to collaborate on efforts to force down the price of HIV/AIDS drugs. Longterm funding proposals for the ADAP program will have to enlist pharmaceutical companies, the private insurance industry, state and federal government, and community-based organizations. Mr. Zold's accusations that I, or this agency, have attempted to "cut people off programs which subsidize the cost of AIDS drugs" are absurd and not based on the facts or our actions. AIDS service organizations around the country are researching means of shifting the burden of cost to reduce state ADAP deficits in an effort to save the program. This includes moving some individuals to private insurance or Medicaid as the primary payer. These efforts will actually secure drug access to a larger number of individuals while decreasing the strain on ADAP.

Steven B. Johnson
Public Policy Director, Northwest AIDS Foundation

Disgraceful verdict

A young man named Scott Fredett is in the County Jail on Seventh Street. He was a security guard who shot and killed a street thug last year in front of Hotel California, at 400 Taylor Street (at O'Farrell) at 4 a.m.

The so-called victim called him gaybaiting type names and threatened him. Fredett, in fear of his life, shot him and was arrested for murder, and much to his amazement was convicted in San Francisco September 5 of first degree murder. Unbelievable.

He was defended by Jeff Brown, the city's public defender — an administrator, not a criminal defense attorney.

I do not personally know Mr. Fredett, if he's gay or not. I do know gay slurs were used by the man he wound up shooting. The media did not follow the trial, so he did not get a following of supporters. This verdict is a disgrace. The man he shot was a convicted felon, a thug, a drug user. Fredett is white, the other man African-American. This may be a case of a gay man railroaded with a politically correct verdict.

Name withheld upon request
San Francisco

[The editor responds: We have covered the case, and have laid the groundwork to speak with Mr. Fredett again. Until then, we would caution that it's dangerous to suggest the lives of convicted felons and drug users are inherently valueless, or that white-on-black crimes carry stiffer than normal penalties, when so much evidence exists to the contrary. Nor is it a good thing to have .357 Magnums discharged in residential neighborhoods, even at 4 a.m.]

Spare a paradigm?

I recently attended an enlightening lecture given by medical intuitive and teacher of energetics, Carolyn Myss, Ph.D. I was disappointed, however, to see only two other gay men at the lecture, sponsored by Gaia bookstore in Berkeley, in an SRO audience of over 1,000. Considering the healing we need right now, I had hoped to see more of our community there.

Dr. Myss is an extraordinarily gifted healer and teacher. She began working with Dr. Norman Shealey, a Harvard brain surgeon, in the early 80s as a medical clairvoyant. Her diagnostic accuracy rate is 93%, which is 10% higher than medical doctors. She no longer does medical readings and currently teaches what she has learned through her work about health and illness, so we can all learn to heal ourselves.

In her book *Anatomy of the Spirit* and her tape series *Energy Anatomy*, she has combined the great mystic traditions of both the East and the West to provide a roadmap for working with body, mind, and spirit to achieve optimal health. She documents a client who was HIV+, healed himself of AIDS, and seroconverted. She is very down to earth, compassionate, and tough — she doesn't let anyone off the hook.

I encourage every gay man to listen with an open mind to what this remarkable woman has to say. Our lives may depend on it. Dr. Myss is more than a bridge to the next paradigm, she is the next paradigm. The New Age grows up.

Don Eike
Berkeley, CA

Drummer responds

Since 1979, *Drummer Magazine* has been the primary sponsor of the Mr. Drummer Contests. As a promotional tool for our publications, the event has met with varying success. We are, after all, magazine publishers and not a theatrical company.

But as a celebration, the event has become a landmark in the Leather calendar. Over the years a dedicated coalition of volunteers and members of the international Leather community have assisted in putting together an event which allows San Francisco to display their Leather pride to the world. *Drummer* has acknowledged and continues to sincerely thank Mr. Marcus, Audrey Joseph, as well as David Walker and all the tireless Leatherfolk who have contributed to contests over the past 17 years.

This year, a relationship was sought among several national and local organizations. Realizing the strong sense of history and ownership felt towards the Mr. Drummer events, it was our intention to give the contest back to the community. This created a unique opportunity for the right partner to promote their organization and raise funds using an established event and the internationally-recognized brand-name of *Drummer Magazine*.

Unfortunately, the organizations that had expressed strong interest later withdrew, but we still believe in this idea. In association with Mr. Walker, we are currently seeking involvement from organizations willing to commit to future Mr. Drummer Contests.

In the meantime, the Mr. Drummer title remains a corporate asset of Desmodus, Inc. It is an asset we are happy to share in what we hope will be an exemplary partnership of business and community. Rather than critics, what would be more useful at this point is creativity and co-operation.

Martijn Bakker
Publisher, *Drummer Magazine*

Dan or Di in '98?

by Wayne Friday

The last of the absentee votes hadn't been counted in California last week before the race for governor and a host of other statewide offices was heating up. Termed-out State Senate Leader **Bill Lockyer** (D-Hayward) has already announced he is considering the attorney general's spot, and a number of assemblymembers are looking at the post of secretary of state and that of lieutenant governor.

However, most interest clearly centers on who will succeed Gov. **Pete Wilson**, who is barred from running for another term. Two-term state Attorney General **Dan Lungren**—though he took a beating last week in the Clinton landslide (Lungren served as Dole's California co-chair), watched the Republicans lose control of the Assembly, and saw Prop. 215 win approval by a wide margin over his most vehement objections—is clearly the Republican to beat in '98.

While Lungren seemingly has a near lock on the GOP nomination, state Democrats could be looking at a bruising primary fight to see who they choose to oppose him. Lt. Governor **Gray Davis** has been running for the Demo nod (and reportedly raising campaign funds) for nearly a year. State Controller **Kathleen Connell** makes no secret of the fact she wants to run, though many party leaders think she will eventually decide to run for re-election to her present post. Then there's **Bill Clinton's** pal, retiring White House Chief of Staff **Leon Panetta**.

Of course, the biggest question mark for the Demos is Sen. **Dianne Feinstein**. Some of those close to DiFi are telling me the former San Francisco mayor may well change her plans to wait until 1998 to decide now that Panetta is a factor. These same sources say we should not be surprised if Feinstein jumps into the race by June of next year.

Dianne Feinstein herself isn't talking publicly about another run for the statehouse, but is rumored to be consulting her top advisers (including longtime political confidant **Bill Carrick**) about whether or not she should enter the fray. A recent *Los Angeles Times* poll showed Feinstein as the one Democrat who could defeat Lungren, and even with top Democrats like Rep. **Nancy Pelosi** and San Francisco Mayor **Willie Brown** attempting a "stop-Feinstein" movement, many Democratic strategists, anxious to take back the statehouse after 16 years of Republican control, were said to be just waiting for her to declare her candidacy.

A scenario making the rounds of Democratic circles has Leon Panetta staying out of the race, helping the Feinstein candidacy, and getting appointed to Feinstein's remaining senate term should the senator defeat Lungren. On the other hand, Panetta was not sounding like a man who wants to return to Washington when he announced he was quitting his White House job to return to his real loves: "my family, my home of Monterey, and home state of California."

One thing seems certain:



Got Milk: students Devary White and Byron Frank (right) show off their new T-shirts at the Nov. 8 celebration designating their school the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy.

should either Panetta or Feinstein make the gubernatorial run, Lt. Governor Davis, not too popular with followers of either Feinstein or Panetta, would likely be an also-ran. If I were a betting man,

I'd wager (though not too much) that DiFi tosses her hat into the ring. Feinstein prefers the executive role to that of a legislator, would like to come home to gov-

ern the state, and like her supporters, truly feels she can win this time if she decided to run. (What Feinstein has going for her that Panetta doesn't is the fact that she has twice won statewide races, while Panetta has yet to be tested with voters outside his Monterey area congressional district.)

As for President Clinton, though he was lavish in his praise for departing Chief of Staff Panetta, he is also close to Sen. Feinstein and credits her in helping him in his big California win. It is by no means a given that he would enter a Democratic fight in support of Panetta over the state's senior senator. Expect both Feinstein and Panetta to make their plans clear within months after Clinton's January inauguration. The Demos see a real chance to win back the California statehouse and may even settle on a compromise candidate to take on Lungren in 1998. This tussle should indeed be interesting to watch over the next six-to-eight months.

Election roundup

The Dumb and Dumber Dole campaign fought to keep **Ross Perot** out of the debates. Had Perot been in the race, Dole might have done better. During the closing weeks of Election '96, the Texas billionaire's attacks on Clinton's character were beginning to have an impact and likely contributed to slippage by Demos, possibly costing them any chance they had of recapturing the House.

The national GOP, once popular with Hispanics, lost much of that community's vote last Tuesday when the President saw a big jump in his Hispanic support over 1992. Clinton held on to his party's longtime grip of the vast majority of black voters as well. Women voters backed Clinton nationally by a 16-point margin, 54% to 38%, perhaps the largest gender-gap spread in presidential election history. And with no one to blame but himself, President Clinton saw his support among gay and lesbian voters slip from 72% in 1992 to 67% last week.

Jack Kemp in 2000 for the GOP? It isn't likely; too many Re-

publican moneybags are pissed at what they regard as a less than all-out effort to help Dole. Many thought Kemp simply used the veep nod as a springboard for his own future plans. Meanwhile, the **Al Gore** for President campaign is already quietly under way. Some think "Honest Al" looks pretty good next to his current boss.

Of the 10 people I asked on Election Day, not one could name Ross Perot's running mate (**Pat Choate**).

Ralph Reed's Christian Coalition passed out 45 million pamphlets in 125,000 churches the Sunday before Election Day on behalf of Dole and GOP candidates.

Washington state elected the son of a Chinese immigrant, Democrat **Gary Locke**, to become the first Asian-American governor outside Hawaii over a GOP candidate who was anti-gay and strongly backed by the Christian Right.

San Francisco Assemblyperson **Carole Migden** and Assemblyman-elect **Kevin Shelley** played big roles in the rise of Democrat **Cruz Bustamante** to assembly speaker and will be expecting favors for San Francisco in return.

In Pennsylvania, a GOP won a House seat by a 10-vote margin.

Females in the U.S. Senate will remain at nine, with Maine joining California as the only states with both U.S. senators being women.

Lesbian Assemblywoman **Sheila Kuehl** was re-elected to her 41st District seat easily last week, with 56% of the vote over four other candidates.

The East Bay's new House member, Democrat **Ellen Tauscher**, while not a liberal in the sense of **Ron Dellums** or **Barbara Boxer**, is a vast improvement over Gingrich clone **Bill Baker**.

The ultra-liberal Americans for Democratic Action has given **Barbara Boxer** a perfect score (a 100% ADA-approved voting record), while Dianne Feinstein had to settle for a 95% rating, having apparently cast one "wrong" vote, according to the ADA.

Finally, although my old friend **Harvey Milk** would certainly be proud of the new opera named for him (he was a dedicated opera queen, after all), I suspect he would be even prouder of the recent name change undergone by the Castro area school at 4233 19th St. — from the Douglass Alternative Elementary School to the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy. Kudos to Supervisor **Tom Ammiano** for shepherding the name change through, oftentimes over the vociferous protests of some parents and faculty. What a legacy for our slain supervisor! I'm sure Harvey would have approved. ▼



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I told you so!

by Beth Elliott

If You Don't Vote, You Can't Bitch Dept.: I voted. I can bitch. So let's cut to the chase: the No on 209/Stop CCRI campaign.

Hey, nice campaign! Thanks for blowing a winnable ballot contest! Here in California—California!—you couldn't get voters to keep affirmative action even as they voted the liberal line on raising the minimum wage, making permanent a temporary tax hike, defeating a prison construction bond and legalizing marijuana for medical use. Nineteen counties voted both for CCRI and medical marijuana—even Orange and San Diego Counties, for Chrissakes! So do you think your campaign, like, really sucked or something? I do.

Bruce Cain, a political scientist at the Institute of Governmental Studies at Cal Berkeley, said the passage of 209 sends the message that "people believe that minorities face unequal opportunities but don't like preferences and fixed goals as the method of deal-

ing with that problem." Gee, no fooling? How many months ago did I say the playing field wasn't level just yet and suggest a "mend it, don't end it" campaign? "It just goes too far," I suggested. "It's just not the answer." Did I call this one, or what?

When the camera crews visited headquarters, I compared the almost somber tone at Yes headquarters with the party atmosphere at No headquarters.

At No, some grinning idiot tried to claim the victory of educating people that discrimination exists—a pathetic exercise in spin doctoring after escalating alarmist rhetoric failed miserably. When Yes had talked of higher academic standards for Asian students to get into Cal or Lowell, No dodged this legitimate question, puffing "diversity" as part of a complete university education. Queer papers took to calling CCRI "the hate bill of 1996." Right—can we cry wolf any louder?

and finding fewer people interested in "the Movement" and a monolithic ideology, the Left tried to relive its youth with a "California Freedom Summer." They made fools of themselves trying to convince the voters that CCRI would bring back Jim Crow.

How do they feel now that their inflammatory rhetoric—and spending 4,000 taxpayer dollars to bring in David Duke as a straw dog—failed to elicit the proper response?

Seeing a Klansman under every CCRI bed only suggested No on 209 wasn't making its case on the merits—this was a tactic of utter desperation. Hmm, the Klan ...

zealots who complain their race is getting shafted ... who fire shots at people's houses, make threatening phone calls and accuse their opponents of racial treason. So who got this treatment? Oh, maybe ... Ward Connerly? To paraphrase Pogo's immortal words, No on 209 has met the Klan, and the KKK is they. If there was a swing vote of people reluctant to end affirmative action but wary of empowering the Left, we know whom to blame.

Fashion faux pas

This year, liberals have alluded to the fable of the emperor's new clothes to suggest some legislation or programs are not what they seem. Actually, that story has a more nuanced moral. The con men sold their non-existent raiment to the emperor by saying the cloth was so fine and exquisite only people of sensibility and refinement could see it; to the ignorant and uncouth, it would appear invisible. The emperor and his subjects played along with the charade because they wanted to be "special," and did not want to appear unsophisticated. They tried to shush and demean the child who said the emperor was naked.

Basically, I got called an "idiot" and "reactionary" by people wanting to appear knowledgeable, refined and progressive, all for pointing out the flaws in the emperor's new No on 209 campaign. Since there's little joy being able to

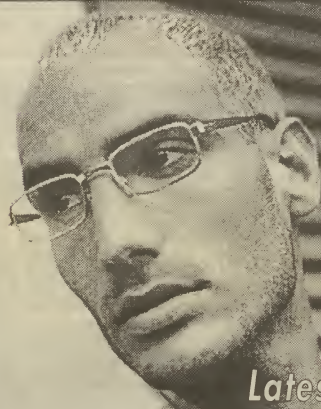
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Fantastic four

As desperation set in, I received a pitch for funds in which Dolores Huerta, Patricia Ireland, Jesse Jackson and Eleanor Smeal said 209 was "a key part of a frontal attack on the great Civil Rights Act of 1964." Then I got my ballot book and read 209's provisions: (d) would keep court orders and consent decrees—the enforcement of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and California's FEHA—intact; (e) would prohibit actions jeopardizing eligibility for federal programs and funding; and (h) would invalidate any provisions found to be in conflict with federal law or the U.S. Constitution. That's a well-crafted deferral to the Civil Rights Act of 1964, not an attack. How can I believe these four leaders anymore? They lied to me! What of their credibility after how they cried wolf? Hey, nice campaign!

Seeing denial over the failure of outmoded tactics, I find myself tempted to think of the anti-209 campaign as the New Left's mid-life crisis. Faced with an initiative setting at odds two moral positives (non-discrimination versus balancing out past discrimination),

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Wired2BGay cruises Middle America

by Terry Beswick

Let's face it: for queers, the upshot of the first half of the Clintonite era is that we have been successfully defined as "special," marginalizing us back to the virtual fringes of the political landscape.

Special! Equal! Special! Equal! Blah, blah, blah.

The Great National Debate on the subject of gay rights is over. And we lost, by the way.

But who cares? This fight won't be won in Congress or the courts anyway — it'll be won culturally, in the living room, by Ellen DeGeneres, Dennis Rodman and Ru Paul. And of course it'll be won locally, by the gay teachers, the gay parents and the lesbian cops. And perhaps more insidiously, it'll be won on the Web.

City queers long ago created our little "gay ghettos" — virtual cities themselves — to insulate ourselves from the major hazards and minor insults that marred so many of our early lives "back home." Many of us survivors of the '70s and '80s still live, work and play in these isolated enclaves like Mennonites. We encourage each other to patronize gay-owned shops and restaurants. We don't mix much; we have our own gay couture and gay cuisine.

Yet to today's happening Virtual Queer, this is totally tedious and also very tiresome. If we are indeed everywhere, why can't we live, work and play anywhere?

In the late '90s Information Age, a decentralization seems to be taking hold, as people — straight or gay — drift from the cities to work by computer in the burbs and the hinterlands. "Straights" communicate anonymously with their gay neighbors, acting out their little hopes and fears in the safety of virtual reality, participating in a lively exchange of ideas rather than passively watching the boob-tubes behind their bolted doors.

Take me, for instance. I'm filling this column from the beautiful white sands of Carmel beach, where I'm wintering. It's true, the closest gay bar is a few miles away, but I love the way gay and bisexual men flirt in small towns — all furtive and innocent.

Meanwhile, the online universe is an evolving reflection of all the changes going on in the real world.

This week I explored two very similar online virtual worlds, both available through CompuServe: WorldsAway Dreamscape and Pride!Universe.

In a way, the first represents the larger macrocosm of the mixed straight/gay society, while the latter is the gay ghetto.

I admit that I checked out Pride!Universe first precisely because it was gay. But not *only* because it was gay: Pride!Media also sent me a press package and gave

me some free time online.

And I wasn't disappointed. It was virtually fun! Actually, I'd never experienced anything quite like it before. Unlike the strictly text-based "chatrooms" and bulletin boards which can be found all over the Net, Pride!Universe is an interactive visually-based program.

A cartoon of yourself

Basically, visitors to Pride!Universe adopt a cartoon representation of themselves known as an "avatar," and proceed to cruise around what seems to be an endless maze of rooms on a circular space station sort of like Deep Space Nine.

Everything has a very gay flavor, and Avatars are invited to trade in their boring "newbie" bodies and heads for new ones. But everything costs money, so you may have to sell your head at the pawnshop before you can get a new one at the shopping mall, along with new skin color, a smart outfit and sensible shoes.

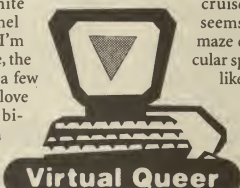
Avatars earn more coins the longer they hang around, which will be needed not only to purchase body parts and other accessories, but to rent an apartment and buy home furnishings. Fortunately, there's usually a helpful Pride! employee about who will buy you things if you're real nice.

Wrapped up in Pride!, a gay-

oriented set of web links, chat rooms, news services and personals, Pride!Universe is truly a virtual gay ghetto. Over the course of several hours, I did encounter the stray heterosexual or two, but they seemed to be rather dim bulbs (probably curious pubescents — one never knows for

sure!). Actually, all the conversation seemed to be rather dull after awhile, compared to the text-based chatrooms. People seemed to be all into their two-dimensional little bodies, making faces, waving and jumping around. Almost like a real bar!

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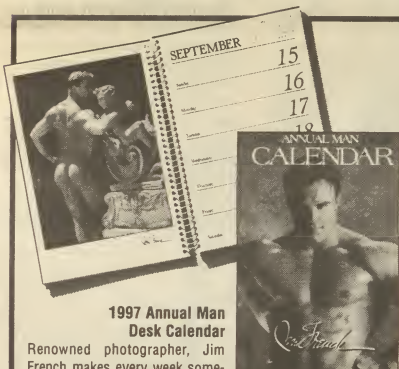
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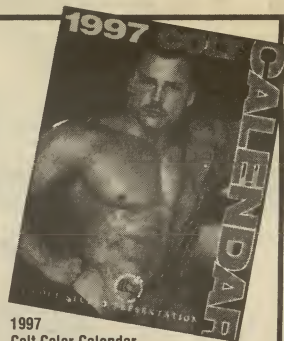
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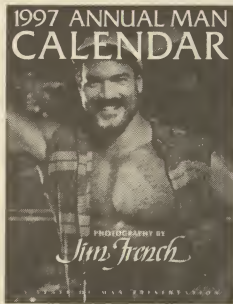
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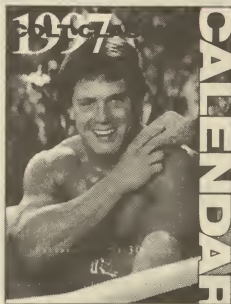
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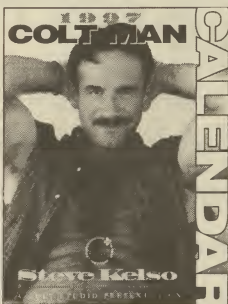
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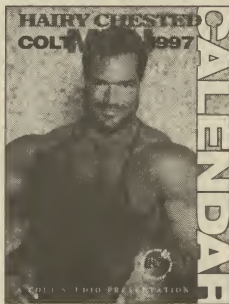
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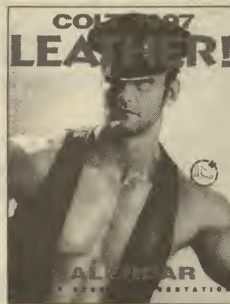
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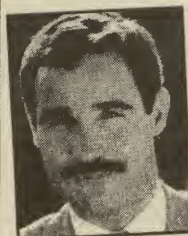


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Forum on new(er) meanings of safe(r) sex

by Shan Schwartz

As AIDS is appearing to become a more manageable disease, should gay men re-shape their opinions about safe sex?

For HIV-negative men, staying safe may seem less crucial, and getting infected may seem less scary if there's the possibility of living a few decades with the disease.

For HIV-positive men, while the possibility of re-infection has been an abstract concern, the decision now not to use condoms between two infected partners may have greater ramifications.

A community forum addressing these issues is planned for this Friday evening, November 15, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at Metropolitan Community Church, located at 150 Eureka Street.

Steven Gibson, forums and events manager for the Stop AIDS Project, said the forum is intended to help shape men's opinions of developing and ever-changing scientific information on HIV and AIDS before their opinions turn into "urban myths" or false truths on which men will base their behavior.

"Men have often taken partial biological truths and made them reality," Gibson said. "For example, it has become a common belief that tops can't get HIV. While they may be less likely to acquire the virus, they are not entirely safe."

Gibson said new treatments give the community hope that AIDS is a more treatable and preventable illness, but the new hope raises questions in people's minds about their own sexual behavior.

"People wonder, 'What does it mean to gay men having sex?'

and 'Why should I try to avoid it?'" he said.

"What we think determines our behavior," he said. "We want to get a panel of experts to address these issues, so all the available information is discussed and people can make informed decisions."

Gibson said with new strains of HIV and with uncertainties about the promising new treatments, HIV-infected men should still be concerned about safe sex for their own health.

"People have said things like, 'I feel like I've been hit by a semi truck and now a pickup is com-

Project."

Between 100 and 200 people are expected to attend the forum. Gibson said the discussion should be especially valuable to anyone because these issues affect both HIV-negative and HIV-positive men.

"It should be a unique opportunity to discuss a specific topic with a bigger group of people," he said.

Dan Wohlfeiler, Education Director at the Stop AIDS Project, said the open discussions are important for gay men to help shape their own behavior about

"Men often take partial biological truths and make them reality."

— Steven Gibson,
Stop AIDS Project events manager

ing along," Gibson said. "But for the first time we have reasons to argue why two HIV-positive men may want to use condoms."

"The facts may not all be in yet, but people are going to start making decisions based on the information they have," he said. "These forums are aimed at getting as much correct information out to them as we can, so they won't make their decisions based on incorrect or incomplete information."

The forum will include presentations by a panel of health experts followed by an open discussion between panelists and community members. The panel will include David Evans from Project Inform, Christopher Esposito from the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, and Mike Discepolo from the AIDS Health

safe sex.

"New treatments are changing how many of us think about our future," Wohlfeiler said. "But it's also important to think about how they may affect what choices we're making sexually. We want to make sure people get the chance to ask questions and find out what decisions others are making with the same information." ▼

For more information about Friday's forum, call the Stop AIDS Project at 621-7177. If you get a recording, leave a message for Steven Gibson at ext. 258. More information about the Stop AIDS Project is also available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.stopaids.org>.

E Bay panel discussion on protease inhibitors Tuesday

by Cynthia Laird

Interested people are invited to attend a Tuesday, November 19 town hall meeting in Oakland, to discuss recent medical advances in treating HIV/AIDS. Panelists include East Bay HIV specialists from Alta Bates Medical Center, Kaiser Permanente, and Highland General Hospital.

"HIV as a Chronic, Treatable Condition: Hope or Hype?" is the title of the meeting. Medical professionals will discuss protease inhibitors and other developments that now offer renewed hope to people living with HIV.

The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. and will be held at Kaiser Permanente's Oakland Medical Center, 280 West MacArthur Blvd.

Those participating in the discussion will include Dr. Carol Brosgart, medical director of Alta

Bates' East Bay AIDS Center; Dr. Michael Clement, HIV specialist and team leader at Kaiser Permanente; Dr. Thomas Sharpton, HIV therapeutic chair at Kaiser; Dr. Sally Slome, infectious disease and HIV specialist at Kaiser; and Leisha Wilson, acting director of the adult immunology clinic at Highland Hospital. ▼

For more information, call (510) 795-3850.

Project Inform to discuss immune-based therapies Wednesday

by Dennis Conkin

Project Inform will hold an Update Town Meeting to talk about immune-based therapies and other treatment strategies for treating HIV on Wednesday, November 20 from 6:30-9 p.m.

The information presentation and question-and-answer session will be held at the Laurel Heights

Conference Center of the University of California at San Francisco, located at 3333 California Street at Presidio.

"As more therapies to fight HIV continue to be approved, this added benefit can also make choosing a treatment strategy confusing," said PI coordinator Marvin Carter.

The issues relating to HIV treatment to be discussed at the meeting include questions of

when to begin therapy and choices available to people who have used older therapies, he said.

Speakers will include Project Inform Founding Director Martin Delaney; Brenda Lein, director of Project Immune Restoration; and Ben Cheng, PI manager of information and advocacy. ▼

For more information contact Project Inform at (415) 558-8669.

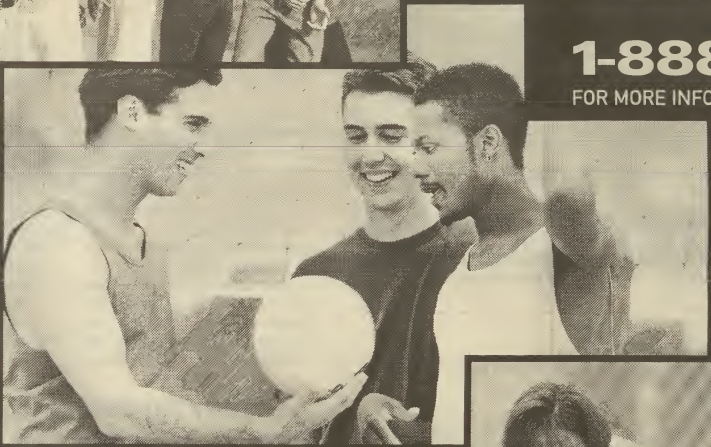
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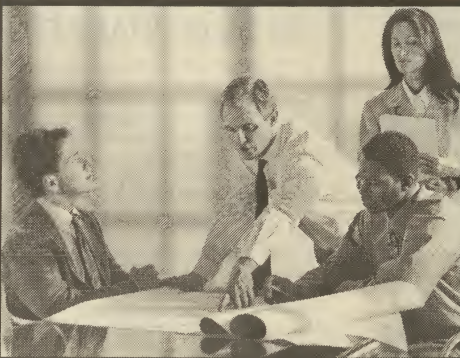
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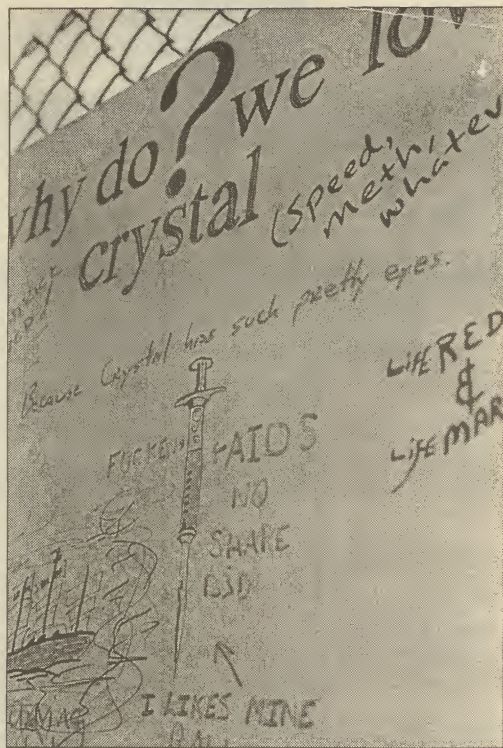
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Crystal lite and dark: A section of the wall at Market and Noe sts.

'Why do we love crystal?' Talking wall gets people talking

by Liz Highleyman

A new attempt to raise awareness of crystal methamphetamine use in the Castro made its debut Friday, November 1st. The "talking wall" was installed at the site of the Life Garden on Market Street at Noe. Supervisor Susan Leal was on hand to help kick off the project.

The wall, a three- by five-foot blank billboard that encourages graffiti, bears the question, "Why do we love crystal?"

Over the course of the past two weeks, hundreds of passers-by have shared their thoughts and feelings on the subject. By last Wednesday, the first billboard had

of the week. New boards focused on different topics will be installed in the coming months.

The talking wall is a project of the Castro Neighborhood Organizing Group, which grew out of a series of meetings on crystal use in the neighborhood sponsored by the Stop AIDS Project. The meetings — which bring together current and former speed users, AIDS prevention workers, and interested residents — provide a forum for the discussion of the psychology and physiology of speed use, its relation to gay identity and sexuality, and its effects on individuals and communities.

The goal of the wall is to acknowledge and get people talking about the widespread use of the

Many responses are sexual in nature: "sex was never better" or the blunt "HARDER, FASTER."

been filled with comments, and a second empty board was installed.

Commentary has spanned the spectrum from the serious to the silly to the sarcastic. Many responses have been sexual in nature — "sex was never better" and the blunt "HARDER, FASTER" — reflecting how members of queer communities often use speed to facilitate sexual encounters. Other responses told of how crystal helps them deal with grief — "kills the pain" — and buoy their self-confidence. One drawing admonishes injectors of speed not to share needles. A few responses castigate crystal users as losers (one even encourages users to kill themselves). The current boards will remain in place until the end

drug and to increase understanding about the motivations, benefits, and costs of crystal use. Patrick Barresi of Stop AIDS stated that so far the response to the wall has "exceeded our expectations in getting people thinking and talking."

On November 7th, the group met to view slides of the talking wall and discuss the comments received so far. Castro neighborhood meetings take place once a month; meetings are also held in the South of Market and Polk neighborhoods. ▼

For more information, contact Barresi at the Stop AIDS Project, 621-7177 x257.

Gregory H. Fleischer

Supes discuss gay speed epidemic, need for treatment on demand

by Cynthia Laird

Two of every three men who inject methamphetamine in San Francisco have HIV, either from sharing needles or engaging in unsafe sex while under the influence of the drug.

That was just one of numerous sobering statistics presented at a board of supervisors committee meeting Thursday, November 7. The often candid discussions about substance abuse in San Francisco, particularly in the gay community, led several city supervisors and public health officials to start work now so that next year residents can utilize treatment on demand services for substance abuse problems.

It was standing room only at the Health, Public Safety, and Environment Committee meeting, where doctors, former drug users, and healthcare providers all spoke of the urgent need for treatment on demand. The term refers to having enough openings in programs so that people seeking help won't have to wait - sometimes up to six months - to get help.

Supervisor Susan Leal, who had asked for the committee to discuss the issue, said an estimated 1,300 people now want treatment but cannot get it. Funding treatment on demand has become one of her top priorities for the 1996-97 city budget.

"I've talked with the mayor about this, I've talked with DPH about this," Leal said. "This gets put on the table as one of the first items of business. I've gotten somewhat of a commitment from the mayor."

Health Department Director Dr. Sandra Hernandez informed Supervisors Angela Alioto, Michael Yaki, and Leal that it will

cost at least \$20 million next year to provide treatment on demand.

Alioto also strongly supports treatment on demand, though she won't be a supervisor when the budget is approved next summer.

"Twenty million dollars is not a huge sum out of a \$3 billion [city] budget," said Alioto.

Hernandez said her department will draft a treatment on demand proposal, utilizing existing substance abuse treatment facilities as well as developing additional community-based programs in order to increase capacity.

"It will require a significant shift in policy. It requires an up-front investment," Hernandez said. "It will take a few years to realize the savings."

Larry Meredith, Ph.D., director of the Department of Public Health's (DPH) Community Substance Abuse Services, said the impact of alcohol and drug abuse can be seen in the city every day. Among adults in the city, each day there are 35 narcotic or alcohol-related arrests, 14 reports of domestic violence involving alcohol, and five hospital emergency room visits caused by cocaine or speed use, Meredith said. Each day, one AIDS diagnosis is attributed to injection drug use.

Meredith also said 30 percent of gay and bisexual men in San Francisco use methamphetamines, compared to nine percent of gay/bisexual men in Chicago and four percent in Denver, according to a 1996 DPH study.

Michael Siever, Ph.D., a psychologist in private practice, said the connection between methamphetamine use and HIV transmission is "the highest of any category."

"Sixty-nine percent of men injecting methamphetamine have HIV in San Francisco," agreed Meredith. ▼

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Supervisor Brown leads boycott against political fundies

Ministers snub Graham, Promise Keepers

by Marghe Covino

In what can only be described as a major schism, the Baptist Ministers Conference of San Francisco and the National Baptist Connection, U.S.A., Inc. (the largest African-American religious body in the nation) have called on all churches and members to withhold support to Billy

Graham in all future crusades.

San Francisco Supervisor Amos Brown, pastor of San Francisco's Third Baptist Church, held a November 3 press conference with other African-American ministers, which was attended by the state and national chairs of the NAACP and San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown. As they released copies of a letter written to Graham withdrawing their support,

they also took a position on Promise Keepers, the traveling fundamentalist preaching shows that extol the gospel of female domination and heterosexism to male-only audiences.

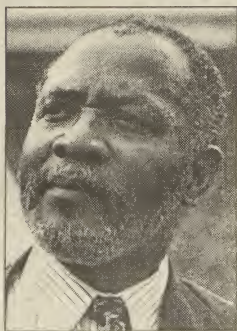
The ministers' withholding of support is a serious issue because the Graham Crusades depend heavily upon local churches to do follow-up on those who are "saved" during their services.

At the press conference, Brown pointed out that Graham had provided a "photo-op" for anti-gay Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina during Helms' re-election campaign, by walking with him in a garden and meeting with him over lunch. In addition, despite the pleas of African-American ministers and other religious figures for Graham to speak out on the issue of affirmative action and Prop. 209, Graham refused to do so, saying it was a political issue and not a religious matter.

Clearly angry, Brown cited Graham's obvious political support of Helms over African-American challenger Harvey Gantt.

False witness?

Brown cited what he called "Graham's history of duplicitous actions on civil rights and social justice," saying, "He used the same egregious insult as supporters of Prop. 209 by using Martin Luther King's words in a recent *Parade* magazine article. King was listed



Reverend Amos Brown

among the world leaders Graham has counseled, which was not true.

"In fact, Dr. King talked to Graham on a plane on the way to a Baptist Convention in Rio de Janeiro and asked him to support civil rights. When King returned to his seat, he told his companion that Graham had told him he was 'pushing too hard and should slow down.'"

"So why should we stand with people who have been on the side of our enemies?" Brown asked.

Brown recalled that Graham started preaching against the evils of communism in a tent revival in 1949, and that fateful tent meeting came to the attention of William Randolph Hearst, who called Henry Luce of the Time-Life chain about the young preacher who took on the communies, which resulted in word going out to editors across the country: "Puff Graham."

"So," Brown said, "he started

page 31 ►

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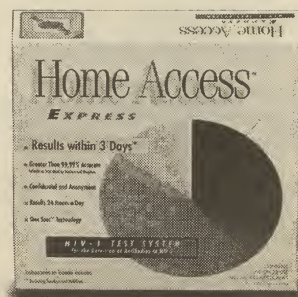
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Adoption 'Reg Day' Saturday

**SF adoptee and mom,
both lesbians, glad to
have found each other**

by Cynthia Laird

San Francisco adoptee Deborah Smith had been searching for her birthmother for several years, and when the two first spoke last January they were in for a big surprise: mother and daughter are both lesbians.

Smith, who just turned 36, celebrated her birthday with Joyce Jones, her birthmother, who came to the city from New Hampshire for the celebration held Saturday, November 9. Smith recalled the moment when she and Jones learned each is a lesbian. Initially, Smith said she didn't want Jones to know she's gay because she feared abandonment after a search Smith began over three years ago.

But as the two talked on the phone last January, they discussed their personal lives. Jones told Smith that she wasn't married and lived with a roommate. That comment raised Smith's curiosity, she said. Smith told her mother that she wasn't married either. Then Jones asked Smith why she didn't have children.

"She said, 'Is it because you're gay?' I said, 'Yes.' And she said, 'So am I,'" Smith told the B.A.R.

The story of Smith and Jones is a happy one involving adoptees who search for their birthparents. Other adoptees or birthparents can take part in the second annual International Search Registration Day that takes place Saturday, November 16 with registration sites in several Bay Area cities.

The event is being organized by the Adoption Search Registration Coalition, a group of people who have been touched by adoption, said coalition member Laura Ingram. She added that November is National Adoption Month.

Ingram said volunteers will be on hand at the sites on "Reg Day," as it's known, to help as many people as possible register with the International Soundex Reunion Registry (ISRR), a free, nonprofit, mutual consent registry. ISRR gets hold of adults who desire contact or reunion with their birth families. Ingram said thousands of people registered last year and many matches were made.

At the sites, ISRR will have registration forms available, along with lists of local search and support groups, booklets, and other resources for all of those touched by adoption. Adoptees, birthparents and adoptive parents who support more openness and honesty in adoption policy will staff the sites, Ingram explained.

"They will be available to share their experiences with those who may be thinking about searching but don't know how to start, as well as people afraid of being rejected or concerned about privacy issues," Ingram stated.

No shame or secrecy

She said that attitudes and practices surrounding adoption are evolving, and the often-felt



Chip off the old block: mother Joyce Jones and daughter Deborah Smith.

shame and secrecy of earlier years is dissolving under today's social standards and the growing recognition of the psychological importance of knowing one's identity.

"Adoptees need their medical history, often urgently, and all parties need truth and information about the past," Ingram said. "Search and reunion, many are finding, can often offer new beginnings."

That point is aptly illustrated by the story of Smith and Jones. Before this year, Smith said that birthdays were an especially difficult time for her. She said she was also discouraged from looking for her birthmother by her adoptive family. However, she persevered and started searching consistently in 1993. Jones is glad Smith kept looking for her.

"It's truly wonderful to be reunited," Jones told the B.A.R., adding she came out to San Fran-

cisco in May to be with Smith for a Mother's Day celebration.

Jones said that when Smith went to New Hampshire in February and the two met for the first time, local newspapers and several television stations covered the event.

On Saturday, the Reg Day site in San Francisco will be at the Grove Cafe, 2250 Chestnut Street, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

In Berkeley, people can go to Cody's Books, 2454 Telegraph Avenue, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

In San Rafael, the site will be at Borders Books, 588 Francisco Blvd. West, from noon to 8 p.m.

In Walnut Creek, Barnes & Noble Books, 1149 S. Main Street, will be the site from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. ▼

For more information about Reg Day or to volunteer, call (510) 653-4637 or (510) 843-0533.

'Tree of Life' hospice fundraiser Tuesday

by Cynthia Laird

Hospice by the Bay, a nonprofit community-based organization serving adults and children with terminal illnesses in San Francisco and San Mateo counties, is having its annual "Tree of Life" benefit auction on Tuesday, November 19 in the city.

The benefit will feature celebrity guests Katita Waldo, a star ballerina with the San Francisco Ballet, and Don Sanchez, KGO-TV news anchor. Food and beverages from prominent Bay Area restaurants and Northern California wineries will also be featured at the event. Music will

be provided by Mercy, a popular rhythm and blues band. There will be silent and live auctions, as well as dancing.

The "Tree of Life" event is something that hospices across the nation celebrate around this time of year, said Carol Crawford, Mateo counties, is having its annual "Tree of Life" benefit auction on Tuesday, November 19 in the city.

The benefit will be held from 7 p.m. to midnight at the Officer's Club at the Presidio, Moraga Street at Arguello Blvd. Tickets are \$65 per person in advance, \$55 per person for two or more, or \$75 at the door. ▼

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Sex club regs

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to closing sex clubs across the board. In response to a question about whether the city recognizes commercial sex clubs as legitimate business entities, Katz replied that the clubs are indeed legal establishments that operate under general business licenses issued by the tax collector's office (the proposed legislation would have created a special category of licenses specifically for sex clubs).

Not a stick

Mike Housh of Ammiano's office stated that "Tom never viewed the legislation as a 'stick,' but rather as 'a way to engage club operators and prevention educators in creating a positive model.' Housh said that Ammiano had not yet decided whether to pursue the formal legislation despite the opposition of the mayor and the health department. Ammiano is, however, 'committed to the process' and wants to continue to work with the CHS. Edward Goehring, a CHS member and operator of LINKS play parties, emphasized that even if the legislation is ultimately not enacted, the process of its development 'has not been wasted' and that 'places are already safer now because they knew the legislation was coming.'

If the legislation is put before the Board of Supervisors, an opportunity for public comment is mandated. This is not required in the case of DPH regulations. Several members of the gay community have expressed their desire to make their feelings known on the sex club issue, as indicated by a recent flurry of letters in the queer press. Brad Grant, owner of Blow Buddies, stated that the lack of information to date about club regulation has left the community "very confused" and allowed ru-

mors to flourish. Buzz Bense, owner of Club Eros, agreed that "the process has not served the community well so far," and observed that the community has "reacted hysterically" because of this omission.

He emphasized that it was important to hear from the community on the "larger issue of how to keep the community healthy while still respecting sexual freedom." Bense suggested that the CHS needs to hear alternative suggestions and points of view that "those in the small world of HIV prevention" might not have thought of.

Sodomy on display

Among the community members attending the meeting was Michael Petrelis, who condemned the proposed legislation and called for a reopening of bathhouses in San Francisco. Noting that he "does not like to engage in sodomy while on display," Petrelis called for venues where patrons can spend time in a pleasant community environment with adequate sanitary facilities and private rooms.

"Gay men do not need more governmental interference in our sex lives," Petrelis stated. "We need honest AIDS education for everyone, regardless of where they are having sex. Mature gay men can make sexual decisions behind closed doors." Several gay bathhouses were closed in the early 1980s amid intense community controversy.

Katz stated that there was no city policy against bathhouses per se, and that the previous closures had been abatements of specific clubs that were hazards to public health. Katz stated that he considers closed, unobservable cubicles to be unsafe, and would not allow them. Bathhouses would be allowed, he said, if all spaces could be monitored and they followed the same guidelines that will apply to sex clubs.

Several attendees at Tuesday's meeting objected to any kind of regulation that attempts to regu-

late the sexual activity of responsible, consenting adults. Paul Cotten of the Steamworks bathhouse in Berkeley (which would not be governed by the regulations proposed for San Francisco) "feel[s] strongly that there is no data to show that monitoring promotes safe sex" and that "closed rooms don't cause unprotected sex." He opposes taking responsibility away from adults, and stated that "by sending in the sex police, we're not doing anything positive." Cotten believes that ongoing, proactive education to promote long-term behavior change is the key, not regulating sexual activity.

In contrast, Constantine, a manager at the Power Exchange, claimed that speaking from his experience at the club, men cannot be expected always to act responsibly. "If you don't want to wear a condom," he said "don't come to my club." Richard Carrazza, a community member, stated that he did not object to private club owners making rules for their clubs, but rather objected to the government making such rules for all clubs.

Arguments in favor

Sex educator and Queen of Heaven party operator Carol Queen pointed out that part of the initial motivation for the sex club legislation was to protect club owners and party operators from harassment by city authorities, noting that many antiquated morality laws are still on the books. Mike Powers, owner of the two Power Exchange clubs on Harrison and Otis streets — one a primarily gay club and the other primarily heterosexual — spoke in favor of formal legislation. Powers feels that he needs such legislation to "keep other city agencies at bay," pointing out that since the sex club story hit the press, his clubs have been visited twice by city authorities; in one case the fire department cited him for having more than 49 people in a 40,000-square-foot space. Formal

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Breast cancer summit looks for answers

by Cynthia Laird

After an estimated 450 people attended the Mayor's Breast Cancer Summit in the city Saturday, November 9, organizers said the conference definitely met its goal of focusing more public attention on the disease and its documented rise among women in the Bay Area.

Speakers and panelists addressed many issues during the day-long forum at Yerba Buena Theater, including available treatment options, access to screening tests and healthcare, and breast cancer's unexplained rise in the region. New studies that were presented did show, however, that

this year. National figures show 184,300 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in 1996, and 44,300 of those will die from it. Statistics like these are what prompted Mayor Willie Brown and Dr. Sandra Hernandez, director of health, to convene the summit.

"This program reflects the diversity of San Francisco breast cancer survivors and advocates," Brown said. "Their messages to policy makers and health care providers are critical."

Eileen Shields, a spokeswoman for the Department of Public Health, noted Brown has held three summits since taking office, including one on healthcare. However, officials decided there was a specific need for the issue of

concerns; and accessing healthcare. All cut across cultural boundaries and research disciplines.

For example, deaths from lack of early breast cancer detection point to the need for community-

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Breast Cancer Summit participants (l to r) Andrea Martin of the Breast Cancer Fund, Rep. Nancy Pelosi, leading epidemiologist Dr. Devra Lee Davis and SF Health Director Dr. Sandra Hernandez chat at Yerba Buena Theatre Nov. 9.

when communities in other cities are matched with the Bay Area, breast cancer rates are similar.

Epidemiologists aren't sure why breast cancer rates have gone up. There are five variables known to be associated with breast cancer: the woman's median household income, her racial/ethnic composition, the number of children born, whether she resides in urban or rural housing, and her level of education.

But there's not agreement on this either. Some known risk factors, such as family and reproduction history, account for less than half of all diagnoses, leaving researchers puzzled.

Locally, the disease is estimated to strike 4,000 Bay Area women

breast cancer to be addressed. Survivors, advocates, policy makers, researchers, and members of the healthcare and scientific communities all took part in the summit. About 100 members of the public also attended, Shields said.

"There was an amazing amount of response from the public," Shields told the B.A.R. "It was everything we hoped for and more. It was so moving, such an incredible day. During the living with breast cancer segment, you could hear a pin drop in the room as women detailed experiences of living with breast cancer."

Other topics included treatment issues and options; breast cancer research, including known risk factors and environmental

political changes," Goehring said, legislation itself "will not protect us from repression or from petty bureaucratic incompetence."

CHS members agreed that if formal legislation is not passed, other means must be developed to reduce arbitrary actions against sex clubs by city authorities, in particular the police and fire departments. Police department liaison Robert Bernardo of SAFE proposed that meetings between CHS members and area police captains might improve relations and decrease actions against the clubs. Powers suggested that lawsuits may be necessary, noting that he is "willing to spend a lot of money to make sure we're left alone."

Bense stated that the key to reducing harassment of sex clubs is for the club operators and the community to "not put up with it" and to "raise a fuss every time someone's rights are trampled on. The moment we stop shouting about rights is the moment they vanish." ▼

Sex club regs

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legislation will help prevent city agencies other than the DPH from "running amok" and "playing games with the clubs," Powers said.

Cotten of the Steamworks noted that in the absence of formal legislation, club operators must rely on the sense and goodwill of politicians and public health officials. He wondered what recourse sex clubs would have if a more conservative city administration comes into power and attempts to close clubs and enforce dated morality laws. Goehring noted that while the proposed legislation would have "leveled the playing field" for club owners, it would not have superseded or negated any existing laws. He claimed that the recent Power Exchange raids were "indicative of what hysteria can lead to." While in the absence of legislation clubs are "at the mercy of

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National leaders outline political agenda at 'Creating Change'

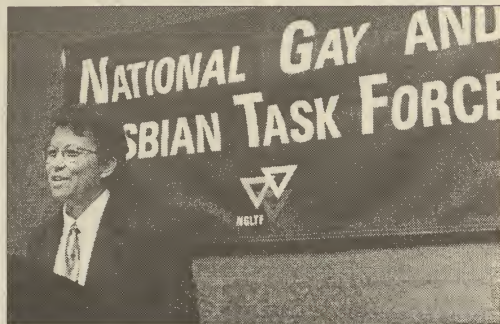
by Bob Roehr

I want to talk to you about the ideological climate of the country because the election process sets the tone for what is possible and not possible," said Melinda Paras, outgoing executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). Her comments came at a forum at the 9th annual Creating Change conference sponsored by NGLTF in Washington, DC.

After the 1994 election, Paras said, "the concept of liberalism was considered to be antiquated, historically dead, and politically irrelevant. What we see this year is a modification of that mood, but not a complete roll-back."

"Explicit hateful, racist, and anti-gay attacks are out," she declared. However, the election and the stands the president took "have created an atmosphere where the catch-up work" will be difficult to attain.

"Our strengths are employment non-discrimination, our weaknesses are marriages and children." She suggested that "now is a good time to start pushing for fairer benefits policies" for federal employees, to bring federal em-



NGLTF's Melinda Paras: "Our strengths are employment non-discrimination; our weaknesses are marriages and children."

ployment policy in line with that of the most progressive companies in the private sector.

For Daniel Zingale, political director of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), "Tuesday's election results proved that when you use fairness as the issue, you win. Blatant gay bashing doesn't play out."

He cited "one of the cleverest pieces of direct mail I've ever seen," a wedding invitation with a picture of two grooms and the charge that candidate "X" was responsible for the voter paying for this same-sex marriage. "What is remarkable is that it didn't work. However people feel about gay marriage, they don't like using it, pretending it is on the forefront of everybody's agenda and using it to scapegoat one group of people."

Zingale believes that the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) can be passed in the

next Congress as "a very important step and a down payment on full civil rights." He pointed to conservative Republican Gordon Smith, the new Senator from Oregon, who "in the final days of the campaign, when he was trying to prove he wasn't an extremist, he endorsed ENDA." ENDA starts with 47 firm votes in the Senate.

However, Zingale's opposition to rewriting ENDA to include transgender people raised some ire among conference participants. He described the three-year gauntlet ENDA had run — first gaining support of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (a coalition of 180 civil rights organizations), endorsement by the president, and bipartisan support in Congress. He concluded, "I think to amend ENDA in any significant way at this point means that you go back three years and start over with the civil rights

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'Take me to your leader' department:

Kerry Lobel turns heads at NGLTF

by Bob Roehr

Creating Change" is the annual training conference run by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). Last week (November 8-10) a record number of activists, more than 2,500, united in Washington, DC for three days of seminars and workshops.

The Task Force has also been creating change of its own, when it recently announced that deputy director Kerry Lobel will step up to become its executive director on December 1.

Lobel grew up in the San Fernando Valley, but she is definitely not your stereotypical "Valley Girl." True, at 43 there is an easy laugh and shoulder-length chestnut hair, but there is also a rigor to her thought and a matter-of-fact intensity at her core which is pure activist.

Just beyond the silver six-pointed "Deputy" badge that marks her office door, a life-size cardboard cut-out of Dorothy, Toto, and the Cowardly Lion greets you. It is a bittersweet reminder of family tradition, fun, and tragedy, taken from her brother's office this summer after his suicide.

Blood Sport, that recounting of Whitewater misdeeds so popular in the nation's capitol, lies on the desk. It was her companion during jury duty the previous day,

and evoked strong memories of ten years in Arkansas prior to joining the Task Force.

BR: [NGLTF Communications Director] Robert [Bray] and I talked a little last night and he suggested a question, I'm asking this on his behalf.

KL: Oh my god.

Do you identify as butch or femme?

[Mutual laughter] Did he know the answer to the question?

We talked about it a little bit.

On the butch/femme scale I definitely identify as a butch. There is no question about it. People always tease me about it, I'm not sure why. I come from a tradition where when I came out the feminist movement was really very adamant that there was no such thing as butch or femme, that everyone was exactly the same. Which I never found to be completely true. So I would definitely say that I'm a butch. Proud to be.

What shaped your politics?

I came out in 1971 on the UCLA campus at a time when the feminist and anti-war movements were very vibrant there. Most of the people I knew were lesbians, there was really not the kind of

stigma that many people have coming out.

In my own family it was much more difficult, they were upset. I knew that they would be, but I didn't anticipate how difficult it would be. We were estranged for many years, and the message from them was that I couldn't, shouldn't bring my full self to my family's table. It was very, very difficult. But I'm very grateful that over a period of time that changed, they became more accepting of my lesbian identity.

In the last few years you've lost both your brother and your father. That's a tough load to handle.

It is a tough load to handle. I was very fortunate that when my father died we had a very clean relationship. The unintended consequence of my father's death, which was from an accident, was that it really forced my mother and myself into much more closeness. Sometimes it takes a tragedy.

Then my brother died this year in June, it was and it is a very painful thing. So it was very important to me that my mother be there for me around this job. I'm not sure it would be her choice that I would lead a national gay and lesbian organization, but there it is. On the one hand it is, well why do you have to do that? And on the other hand, let me keep your scrapbook.

Yes, the old tension, don't let the neighbors know, but I'm proud of you. What drew you to battered women's issues?

Sometimes you are in a place at a particular period of time when something falls in your lap. I happened to be sitting in the Women's Resource Center at UCLA one day, and a staff member came in who had been abused by a husband or partner, and needed a resource.

I love battered women's issues because you can talk about abuse, you can talk about housing, child care, welfare, raise economics. You can't talk about women's abuse without the matrix. So it really framed my politics that I was working on an issue that connected with so many other issues.

How did you end up in Arkansas?

I followed love, followed adventure. Moved there in 1984, did some consulting, edited a book [on battered women]. I love Arkansas. It was everything that, as an organizer, was perfect. It was accessible. It was, have an idea and encourage people to come along. There weren't the type of turf issues that I experienced in Southern California.

I started working for the women's project, did a lot of HIV and AIDS work with women working as prostitutes, prisoners,

a lot of technical assistance with women's organizations. Helped support and nurture gay and lesbian organizations. I was able to fill my plate with lots of different issues that made connections and linkages.

I was about to go on a six month paid sabbatical and decided to go to Creating Change in Dallas. I thought it would be a great place to meet people, see what was happening, and think about what I wanted to do with my life.

I found out the Task Force was going to hire Melinda [Paras] and she was looking for a deputy. And I said, that would be fun. I didn't know her from anybody. Went there, we met, connected fairly well. And I moved here the first of January [1995].

Was it what you expected?

No, not at all.

How was it different?

I didn't know when I came here that I would spend so much time being the internal person. I had always been much more the external person. I knew I was coming in to do the day-to-day, but I didn't realize how hard that would be for me as a person, to be the inside person as opposed to the outside person.

I really didn't understand what the pace of work would be. I liter-

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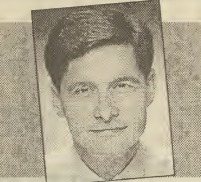
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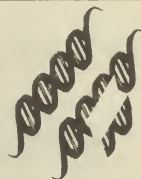


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NGLTF's Kerry Lobel: "People will see much more issue advocacy in more integrated campaigns in areas of anti-violence, issues related to sodomy and family issues."

ally walked in the door, I had gotten off the plane and had my bags in hand, the phone rang and someone said, could you take this call. And I never stopped after that. I had worked nights doing prison work, but I never really had a job where every minute of every day I was completely on the run. That surprised me.

It sounds like the transition to executive director is a homecoming of sorts.

It is. When I left Southern California I was very clear, I was never being an executive director again.

It is too much responsibility. And then I realized when I came to the Task Force as deputy that you have as much responsibility for people's lives, but you don't have the control.

Melinda and I have had a wonderful relationship, but at the same time, when you have been an executive director you know what you would do. I know how to do the public stuff, I know how to ask for money. Clearly now I know all the program, the people, the board and staff.

You mentioned that wonderful word "control." How will things

be different with you as executive director?

I hope that people will see more visibility for the Task Force. I'm much more interested in figuring out a way to do visibility, public stuff, and making sure the internal stuff is in sync.

There will be more campaigning around specific issues, developing linkages with allies in our struggle for social justice, doing that in a visible way that supports local and state organizing.

Some people say the Task Force has an identity crisis. Do you think that is a fair assessment?

I think our mission is clear. Whether we have made that clear in a visible way, I don't know. The Task Force is a progressive organization that works the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender community to make social change. We do that through a number of vehicles, primarily by strengthening local and state organizations.

Now people may have a hard time with that agenda, they may not agree with that agenda, and we may not always be as effective as I would like us to be in moving a progressive social change agenda. But I think that people generally know that is what we are about.

Some have criticized NGLTF for dropping programs like anti-violence.

We never stopped doing anti-violence organizing, what changed was a one-person, one-project approach. Now as people think back, "Oh, wasn't it great when we had so-and-so doing anti-violence

or campus organizing?" Well, yes, unless they were off that day, or sick, or on travel. As a local organizer in Arkansas I often found myself doing anti-violence work, needing to have some basic information, calling the Task Force and not being able to get it because that person was gone. Now anyone who calls here can get the info they need.

What we are going to be doing next year is working with organizers at the local and state levels to develop issue campaigns that help move an agenda. We can develop PSAs, ad slicks, make information accessible to them, other resources so they don't have to start over. People will see much more issue advocacy in more integrated campaigns in areas of anti-violence, issues related to sodomy, and family issues.

Also, I really want the Task Force to build relationships with faith-based communities. That is really important to me and to our movement organizationally. There are many queer people in traditional denominations and we have many queer denominations as well. They are not in dialog with each other and they are not in dialog with national political organizations. Many of them have a progressive agenda.

To some people, that would seem incongruous because of the Task Force's strong feminist anti-patriarchy tradition, and the traditional view of organized religion as being a patriarchal nature and structure. How would you convince them this makes sense?

Living in the South as I did for ten years, most of the people that I

knew were connected with some faith-based community. It was a source of important strength to them, and joy and hope. And their struggle was to bring their full self there. If we want people to be able to live a full life, then we have to work with them to find that full life where they find it, not where someone else in Washington, DC, or LA, or New York thinks they should find it.

Many of these denominations gave birth to the civil rights movement. People of faith know that a very real and authentic struggle for social change is happening within their denominations. It is where some of the hardest issues of our time are being hashed out. So people who go to synagogue, or go to church, or worship in other ways already understand that fundamental shift is happening.

Our job is to be able to have people bring their whole selves to the table and not feel that to be a gay person they have to settle for less, or that they have to be like everyone else.

We have to figure out a way to honor our experience and never forget the hurt that many of us had inflicted on us. But at the same time we have to work for a society in which other people don't have to put up with that.

Get over it, move on.

The way that we move on is not to feel better as individual people, it is to change the institutions that rule our lives. They are going to take profound changing and challenging. I think the Task Force understands that has to be a multifaceted and multi-issue approach, no one way can work. ▼

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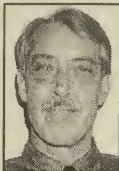
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The Republican Congress

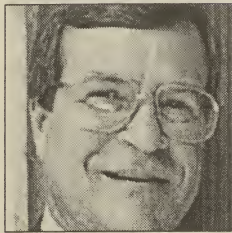
News and analysis
by Bob Roehr

Lesbians and gays may soon look back at the departing Republican Congress with fondness, for the next one has the potential to be much less friendly to their concerns.

The Senate has been the more amicable chamber. But some of the most supportive Republican members will not be there come January, people like Mark Hatfield, Bill Cohen, Nancy Kassebaum, and even Bob Dole. While Dole certainly was not a champion of gay rights, he showed little inclination to advance the gay-bashing social agenda of the religious right as the business of the Senate. His successor, Trent Lott, has shown no such reticence, having appeared in an anti-gay video. And the new Republican Senators are on the whole more socially conservative than those they replace.

The situation in the House is, if anything, more discouraging. Newt Gingrich tended to limit anti-gay activities because he saw them as distracting from his principal concerns, which have an economic and libertarian bent.

He also had the able counsel of Steve Gunderson (R-Wisconsin) to both alert him to anti-gay implications of bills and argue for a different course of action. Gunderson will no longer be there, and it is questionable if Gingrich will even remain as Speaker because of unresolved ethics charges. Believe it or not, Gingrich was a moderat-



Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott

ing voice among the House Republican leadership. Any successor team would likely be more amenable to the programs of social conservatives.

Gunderson's retirement removes one of the most effective voices on gay and lesbian issues in the Republican caucus, on the floor of the House, and in building bipartisan ties with Democrats. He will be sorely missed. So too will the retiring Gerry Studds (D-Massachusetts), another effective advocate who could work with Republicans on some issues.

Barney Frank (D-Massachusetts) remains as an openly gay member of the House and one of its most facile debaters on the floor. But his strength and temperament is that of a highly partisan Democrat, not a bipartisan consensus builder. The other remaining openly gay member is the newly outed and acknowledged Jim Kolbe (R-Arizona). His past record and legislative interests do not encourage one to believe he will fill the existing leadership vacuum on gay and lesbian issues.

Compounding this is the increased polarization of the two parties along geographic and philosophical lines. House Republicans have become even more dominated by social conservatives from the South. The seeming whisker-thin defeat of Peter Torkildsen (R-Massachusetts) removed one of the few Republican voices willing to take a leadership

role on gay and AIDS issues. The retirement of many ranking conservative Democrats, particularly from the South, removed that moderating element within the party caucus.

Liberals in denial

Two years ago when Republicans won control of both Houses of Congress for the first time in four decades, most liberal and gay groups practiced what many called denial. They decided to "tough it out" until this aberration passed and Democrats returned to power.

Their strategy in 1996 was not to play the interest group game of contributing to candidates of both parties but to place their financial and organizational support overwhelmingly behind Democrats. They lost the bet and now must face the increased irritation of Republicans.

Perhaps one can "tough it out" for two years, but not forever. History tells us that the party of the President suffers their greatest congressional losses in the second mid-term election, after he has been in the White House six years. Thus it seems almost inevitable that Republican control of Congress not only will be maintained in the 1998 election, it will be strengthened.

Our national organizations claim to be nonpartisan or bipartisan. In truth, they have worked primarily with Democrats. That will not be enough these next four years. Their options are stark. One is simply to put the national legislative agenda of the lesbian and gay community on hold until Democrats regain Congress. The other is to become truly bipartisan, with a balanced approach representing the interests of the gay and lesbian community before both parties.

It is a daunting challenge, perhaps even more difficult than it would have been two years ago. But there is little option. ▼

Nunn to Pentagon?

by Bob Roehr

The name of Sam Nunn is grinding out of the Washington rumor mill to become either Secretary of Defense or State in the second Clinton administration. The retiring Democratic Senator from Georgia was a leading opponent of gays in the military. Michelle Bencke and Dixon Osburn with the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network began mobilizing opposition to the rumor on November 7. SLDN is urging the community to contact the White House expressing opposition to a Nunn appointment.

Daniel Zingale, political director of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), said the group has told the administration that "Sam Nunn is a highly undesirable Secretary of State or anything else. He is an unacceptable Secretary of Defense."

"He has not repented in any way from his position on gays in the military, he just doesn't get it," the lobbyist said. Nunn had explained his opposition to gays in the military by calling the situation unique. But he later voted against the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA). "So he has an ax to grind," charged Zingale. "At a minimum, the administration has to stop the witch hunts," and Sam Nunn is not the man to do that.

Nunn is believed to have long coveted the job of Secretary of Defense. As chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee for many years he certainly has the paper credentials. It was from that position that he led opposition to President Clinton's 1993 attempt to lift the ban on gays and lesbians serving openly in the military.

That defeat was the first and one of the deepest political humiliations Clinton suffered. Thus it seems highly unlikely that the President would be masochistic enough to honor the Senator with an appointment to his inner circle of advisers. The White House values loyalty above most other criteria, and on that count, Nunn does not measure up.

As Zingale noted, "The appointment of Sam Nunn as Secretary of Defense would raise the issue of gays in the military in the first 100 days of the administration. Which is something they have been through and probably don't want to go through again." ▼

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William Hoffman—Small Business News, April, 1994

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COMMUNITY NEWS

E. Bay: Three (or more) gay candidates elected

by Cynthia Laird

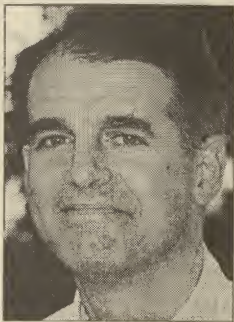
Three openly gay candidates in the East Bay were winners in the November 5 election, and a fourth will probably be in a runoff next month for a seat on the Berkeley City Council.

Kriss Worthington and three-term incumbent Carla Woodworth appear headed for a runoff election on December 3 to determine who will represent Berkeley's District 7, primarily college students around Telegraph Avenue.

As of Friday, November 8, the most recent ballot count gave Worthington the lead - 2,346 votes (49.4 percent) to Woodworth's 1,964 (41 percent) - but left him just short of the 50 percent plus one vote needed to avoid the runoff. He missed winning the seat outright by only 24 votes.

"It's a cliffhanger," Worthington told the B.A.R. "We're still ahead."

The city will conduct its first



BCC hopeful Kriss Worthington

vote-by-mail election for the runoff, according to the city clerk's office. Ballots are being mailed this week to voters in the district. There are still some absentee ballots that need to be counted, but because of time constraints, the clerk's office is proceeding with

preparations for the runoff.

If Worthington has enough votes after remaining ballots are counted, the runoff ballots that are mailed back to the city will not be counted, city officials said. The vote-by-mail election is expected to save the city \$10,000.

In another East Bay race, voters overwhelmingly returned incumbent Tom Brougham to another term on the Peralta Community College District Board of Trustees. With all 82 precincts reporting, Brougham received 14,097 votes while his challenger, Harold Pierre, garnered only 7,890 votes. Brougham has served on the college board since 1987 and was the first openly gay elected public official in the East Bay.

Candidate Danny Wan was successful in his run for a seat on the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) Board of Directors. With all 124 precincts reporting, Wan got 14,635 votes, followed by challengers Gerard Falzone with 13,955 votes, and Robert Arnold with 6,748 votes. Wan's campaign focused on upgrading EBMUD's facilities, and he had the endorsement of outgoing board member Nancy Nadel.

Only two candidates sought two seats on the Berkeley Unified School District Board: incumbent Pamela Doolan and openly gay community college teacher

page 31 ►

Vasco takes on senior issues in Sacramento

by Marghe Covino

Former Assemblymember and now State Senator John Vasconcellos will continue his advocacy on AIDS, economic development, and higher education, but will add senior citizens' concerns to his agenda in Sacramento.

"With the retirement of Henry Mello there is no one to take up the slack on senior issues," said Rand Martin, Vasconcellos' chief of staff. Vasconcellos' district has a large number of senior citizens, and minority groups are increasingly citing their groups' senior issues.

"We can include gay and lesbian seniors in that category," said Sacramento's Lambda Community Center President Joe Lenihan. "The Stonewall generation is reaching the age, and unlike previous generations, they're highly visible and active."

"Our institutions are beginning to have to respond to an increasingly visible senior community, as well to the youth community," Lenihan said.

Martin said Vasconcellos' first

year in the Senate will mostly be involved with economics and funding.

"For seniors, [we're] dealing with the impact of financial issues for nursing services as the numbers of seniors increase," he told the B.A.R. "As for AIDS, most policy issues are in place, but funding issues will continue to be played out in a hostile environment - with AIDS, things are going to change as the disease becomes more chronic and manageable than immediate."

"Also," Martin said, "the senator will continue his involvement in the budget for higher education, playing off his Assembly successes in keeping fees from being increased. He is committed to having the most accessible, most diverse, premiere education system in the nation."

According to Martin, Vasconcellos is looking forward to a substantive and active first year in the Senate.

"After all," he said, "we're not talking about a stereotypical 'freshman.' John is bringing vast experience and knowledge to the Senate - he's a well-respected legislator." ▼

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Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Robert "Bob" Charles Beane
October 18, 1996

Robert, 47, died peacefully at his home in South San Francisco on October 18. He is survived by his mother, Ada Beane; his brother, Van Beane; his sister, Beverly Passarella, all of South San Francisco; and another sister, Pamela Ketchik of Mason, Ill.

Robert is also survived by his beloved friend, Mouse Charrot of San Francisco; Dan Ferguson; Ed Wilson; and Bob Smith. Robert's kind and generous nature will be deeply missed by all those whose lives he touched. At his request, private services were held. Love, Tweeter.

Marcus C. Collins

Aug. 22, 1956 – Sept. 27, 1996

Marc Collins, 40, beloved son of Vera C. Collins and the late Lieutenant Colonel Edward E. Collins, U.S.M.C., passed away September 27 after a courageous struggle with AIDS.

Born in Victoria, B.C., Canada, Marc grew up in Coronado, Calif., and in 1977 received an Associate in Arts degree in sociology from Southwestern College in San Diego. He moved to San Francisco in 1982.

Marc was a devout Buddhist and made a lifelong study of Oriental religions, culture and art. He had a wide circle of devoted friends locally and around the world to whom he referred as "his family."

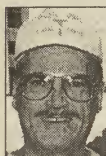
A memorial service at the Buddhist Temple in Pinole, Calif., is pending. You will be forever in my heart, my sweet gentle son. Love, Mom.

Louis Deleon
November 7, 1996

Lou left us on November 7. He is loved and miss by many friends and family, and also Rambo.

Lou was preceded in death by his love mate, Houston, and is survived by his sister, Mary; nieces, Andy and Raquel; nephew, Martyn; cousin, Estela and family; and friends, Bob, Dan, Sam, Gil, Richard, Bruce, Tweed, Glen, David – and many more who will miss him.

Lou was born in LA, served in the U.S. Navy, and attended Cal Berkeley. We will have his smile with us always. A memorial is pending at St. Dominic's. Please call 285-6075 or 673-9057 for more information.

Jerald (Jerry) D. Kenyon
Aug. 15, 1941 – Oct. 16, 1996

Jerald passed away at home in the arms of his lover, Michael, with his dogs, Kalani and Tiny, by his side. Jerry was born in Ely, Nev., and later moved to Utah, where he grew up. He

worked for Mountain Bell for 21 years and in 1981 transferred to San Jose, Calif., where he worked for Pacific Bell for another 12 years. He retired from the phone company, and we moved to San Francisco, which Jerry called home.

Jerry leaves behind his life partner, Michael Gerstorff; parents, Douglas and Virginia Kenyon; sisters, Bonnie (Dan) Basta and Sondra (Jon) Young; son Steve (Tracy) Kenyon; seven nieces and nephews; eight great-nieces and nephews; and one grandchild, Kelsey. His family and friends are going to miss his unique sense of humor – and I will miss you, my S.P. – but I know that we will be together again one day. Rest in peace.

Frank Joseph La Paglia
Aug. 26, 1955 – Nov. 15, 1995

It has been a year since Frank passed away at the age of 40, after a long and courageous battle, and joined his beloved Rick Zemko, who left us on Sept. 2, 1991.

Loving parents,

Kathryn and William Gust; sisters, Linda Clements, Carol Caudill, Kathy Batanian and Kimberly Gust; brother, Billy Gust; assorted in-laws, nieces, nephews, great-nephews and great-nieces; and San Francisco friends still think of him and miss him every day.

This difficult year has also seen the passing of Natalie, Frank's beloved Boston terrier, who joined him on Sept. 23. Rudy, Frank's other faithful companion, lives happily in Barstow with Frank's sister Carol.

Frank was an inspiration to all who knew him, accepting AIDS as an imposition in his life but always remaining upbeat. Fortified with M&M's in ever-changing holiday colors by his side, he was a real fighter. Frankie, wherever you are, we love you.

Steve Masterson

May 22, 1954 – Nov. 1, 1996

Steve Masterson died from AIDS-related complications on November 1 at Maitri Hospice. He was employed in the 1970s as an athletic trainer for the Kansas City Chiefs. He moved to San Francisco in the late '70s and fell in love. His lover of 13 years died in 1991.

Steve struggled with substance abuse issues and was proud to remain clean and sober. His charm, wit and generosity will be greatly missed.

Special thanks to the staff of the Ambassador Hotel, VNH, Peter Claver Community, SFGH Ward 5A, Stephen Wollette, Dan Karasic and the wonderful staff of St. Mary's Dementia Unit. And a very special thanks to the staff of Maitri Hospice, who cared for Steve in his final days. He will be greatly missed by the staff of the UCSF AIDS Substance Abuse Program.

Steve is survived by his mother of Nickerson, Kan.; a brother (whereabouts unknown); friend, John Tyson; and his cat. He will be missed by all. Contact Matthew Chappell at 415/502-7525.

Scott "Scooter" Zimmerman
July 28, 1958 – Oct. 2, 1996

Thus passes another bright star into the vast universe. Scott passed at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 2. He was in the presence of his mother and best friend, Larry.

Scott, known as Studpuppy by BBS surfers, leaves a mother, father, brother, sister, nieces, nephews and a bevy of special friends. Scott was the manager, as well as the score keeper, for the Stormy Leather Hides softball team. Scooter, how will you be missed by all those whose lives you touched. Be at peace, honey. See you soon.

Virtual Queer

◀ page 11

you can't even get nekkid in your own apartment. You can't lie down. You can't even sit. And there are also no profile bios for the Avatar operators, so you have no idea who you're messing with really, which I guess may be part of the appeal.

To get into Pride!Universe, once you've logged onto Compuserve, click on the "GO" stop-light icon and type "GAY" – that's GO GAY in Compuserve lingo. :-) You will be directed to download software called "WorldsAway," which may take awhile, depending on your modem speed.

Cheap cyber thrills

As impressed as I was by Pride!Universe, I have to say that I was even more virtually thrilled by the WorldsAway Dreamscape. Okay, so it was a cheap little cyber-thrill. But, hey! It's fun to mingle with the straight people once in awhile. I donned a big beefy muscular body, a Carmen Miranda head, designer sunglasses and a pierced nose, and threw myself right into their midst!

Now, especially if you name your Avatar something really out, like Wired2BGay, you must be prepared to receive the usual schoolyard jabs and taunts.

("Shouldn't you be in *Pride*!") But they can't keep up with your quick wit and gay tongue. ("Shouldn't you be kissing my *butt*!") And it's very important to make them apologize publicly – none of this "ESP" secret message stuff which the Avatars are fond of.

The main thing about WA Dreamscape (GO AWAY or DREAM in Compuserve) that's different from Pride!Universe is that it is huge, and there are a lot more Avatars in it at any given time. (It's been around for over a year, compared to just a few months for Pride!Universe). In my first couple of visits, I met one only one out dyke. Several of the

men even ran away from me, and of course I obliged by chasing them. Never too jaded for chase-me games!

The bottom line on all of this, though, is that while it's fun and kewl to hang with little anonymous cartoon characters from all over the world, until the technology makes the reality a little more virtual, and until Pride!Universe merges a little with WA Dreamscape, the novelty will probably wear off for me by the time I write my next column. ▼

Comments and hot tips to:
Wired2BGay@aol.com

Gay bashers

◀ page 5

fice said that the evidence did not justify Lee's conviction and that he would make a motion for a new trial.

Observers said that Berman's appeal was a "pro forma" public defender's action, designed to exhaust all legal remedies on behalf of his client.

In sentencing comments, Lee stressed that he has always maintained that he is innocent of the charges, but in the measured and decisive manner that is the trademark of her judicial tenure, Tang

rejected the claim.

Lee's argument was "not persuasive to me, and was not persuasive to the jury," Tang said.

Although defense attorneys pleaded that the convicted anti-gay attackers be given two weeks to get their affairs in order before serving their sentence, Tang gave them a week – ordering them to surrender to police custody on November 14.

A third defendant failed to appear for trial, and a bench warrant was issued for his arrest. Joseph Stellin, 30, whose family is connected to law enforcement, is believed to be on the lam either in California or the northern New Jersey suburbs of New York City. ▼

HIV PERSPECTIVE

Doubly inhibited: advances in combo therapy

by Rob Sabados, ACT UP/
Golden Gate Writers Pool

During the past year, the benefits and risks of combination therapy for HIV infection have drawn considerable attention among researchers, community groups, and people with HIV and AIDS. The September 1996 ICAAC conference in New Orleans and its satellite symposia had a number of interesting presentations on combination therapy. This article will address the effect of combining an HIV protease inhibitor with the NNRTIs — non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors — delavirdine (Rescriptor) or nevirapine (Viramune); as well as combining two protease inhibitors, saquinavir (Invirase) and indinavir (Crixivan).

Delavirdine and protease inhibitors

On September 5, 1996, Pharmacia & Upjohn issued a letter notifying physicians of interactions that occur when combining its experimental NNRTI, delavirdine, with protease inhibitors. Delavirdine, which will be considered for Food and Drug Administration approval later this month, and which is currently available through Pharmacia & Upjohn's expanded access program, would be the second in the new class of anti-HIV drugs to be approved.

This class of drugs is of particular interest because NNRTIs, unlike most other antiviral drugs, cross the blood-brain barrier, thereby preventing viral replication in the brain and central nervous system (CNS). Many researchers and AIDS activists believe that the inability of many anti-HIV drugs to effectively penetrate these areas allows the virus to have a sanctuary from which it can emerge following the withdrawal of or non-compliance with anti-viral therapy. Further, high levels of HIV in the CNS have been linked to HIV dementia, a condition where the virus attacks brain cells, causing neuro-

logical and psychiatric problems.

According to Pharmacia & Upjohn officials, the combination of delavirdine with saquinavir led to a nearly five-fold increase in saquinavir concentration. Since many patients take extra saquinavir in order to boost blood levels, this interaction may allow patients to safely achieve higher saquinavir blood levels while taking less saquinavir. Although only one patient suffered significantly elevated liver enzymes, Pharmacia & Upjohn recommends that the liver enzymes of patients taking this combination be carefully monitored for the first month of therapy. If carefully monitored, this interaction would benefit patients because higher saquinavir levels are believed to more effectively inhibit HIV replication.

When delavirdine was combined with indinavir, the amount of indinavir in the blood nearly doubled. This has led Pharmacia & Upjohn to suggest that patients combining indinavir and delavirdine may benefit from taking a lower dose of indinavir. The company recommends that persons taking indinavir in combination with delavirdine take either 400 or 600 mg. of indinavir three times daily, instead of the usual 800 mg. three times daily. The two recommended doses, when taken with delavirdine, provide 90% and 135%, respectively, of the blood levels that result from the usual 800 mg. dose.

This recommendation is supported by Merck, which manufactures indinavir. According to Kyra Lindemann of Merck's Public Affairs department, "We did collaborate with Pharmacia & Upjohn, they shared the study with us, [and] we concur with the recommendations to drop to 400 or 600 [mg. three times daily]." She declined to provide, however, a recommendation as to which is the better dose.

According to data presented at the Pharmacia & Upjohn's satellite symposium at ICAAC, both the 400 and 600 mg. doses have their respective advantages. While both doses provide indinavir lev-

els sufficient to prevent HIV replication, the 600 mg. dose has a much higher initial peak concentration than the lower dose. The peak concentration of a drug, which occurs shortly after the drug is taken, allows it to penetrate "sanctuary" areas discussed above. Therefore, the higher peak concentration of indinavir that occurs when it is taken with delavirdine may provide clinical benefit by helping to eliminate these sanctuaries.

Some researchers believe that the peak that occurs after one takes indinavir, with or without delavirdine, is responsible for indinavir's tendency to cause nephrolithiasis (kidney stones). The 400 mg. dose provides a lower peak concentration, thereby reducing drug penetration and the potential for the development of kidney stones. Patients are left with a choice: take the higher and potentially more effective dose, or the lower and potentially safer dose. Unfortunately, no studies have yet been conducted to compare the safety and efficacy of these two doses.

No significant interactions were seen when delavirdine was combined with ritonavir (Norvir).

During the Vancouver AIDS conference, ACT UP/Golden Gate secured a commitment from Pharmacia & Upjohn to inform

physicians of the effect of combining delavirdine with protease inhibitors. Following several weeks of strong urging from ACT UP/Golden Gate, Pharmacia & Upjohn sent the letter to physicians and AIDS service organizations.

"We're pleased that Pharmacia & Upjohn took this action to inform the AIDS community and protect people with AIDS," commented ACT UP/Golden Gate and FDA Antiviral Advisory Committee member Bill Thorne. "The increasing use of combination therapy will make drug interactions more common. Drug companies should be on notice: either they address this issue or face the consequences."

Because delavirdine can be safely used with protease inhibitors, delavirdine will likely become an important component of many patients' antiviral regimens.

Nevirapine and protease inhibitors

ACT UP/Golden Gate has also worked to ensure that Boehringer Ingelheim and its subsidiary, Roxane Laboratories, address the interaction between its anti-HIV drug, nevirapine, and other drugs such as protease inhibitors and oral contraceptives. Nevirapine

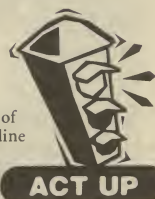
was approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration in June, 1996, and is the first NNRTI to be approved.

According to a September 1996 letter to physicians and data presented at its satellite symposium, a study of nevirapine with the protease inhibitor saquinavir in HIV-infected volunteers found an average 27% decrease in plasma saquinavir levels when the two drugs are taken together. The company states that the decrease, while statistically significant, is not cause for concern. Many treatment activists consider the approved dose of saquinavir already to be sub-optimal, and that further decreases are likely to make saquinavir even less effective.

ACT UP/Golden Gate and other groups have also successfully pressured Boehringer Ingelheim to study the effect of nevirapine on oral contraceptives and other hormonal drugs. The company agreed on November 1, 1996 to conduct a study between nevirapine and oral contraceptives.

The oral contraceptives interaction study and letter to physicians follows months of pressure from ACT UP/Golden Gate and many other groups. Boehringer Ingelheim's actions follow

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ACTION Update


FDA and delavirdine

On November 22, the FDA's Antiviral Drug Advisory Committee is meeting to consider the approval of delavirdine as a treatment for HIV infection.

ACT UP/Golden Gate will attend the hearing to express its support for the timely approval of delavirdine. We will also present written testimony from the community to the FDA.

If you are interested in submitting testimony supporting delavirdine's approval, please contact ACT UP/Golden Gate member Rob Sabados by phone: (415)474-9425, fax: (415)252-9277, e-mail: rob_sabados@out.org or mail: PO Box 422106, San Francisco CA 94142.

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EROS



Ballroom moshing

by Jim Provenzano

At last week's wrestling practice, Team San Francisco representative Dave Wagner gave us new information about Gay Games V, which is only ninety shopping weeks away. Dave told us that now is a good time to join Team San Francisco. In January 1997, pre-registration for Gay Games begins. As the city where it all started, San Francisco will probably be sending the largest contingent of athletes. There will also be opportunities to get on Team San Francisco's Board of Directors, for those of you with a taste for power and influence.

Team San Francisco membership is only \$15. With that you get discounts on neat stuff, a quarter-

ly newsletter with info and updates on Gay Games activities, scholarship opportunities, and travel arrangements. Amsterdam is a small city, and it's a good idea to make plans now, whether you'll be competing or athletically supporting. Housing arrangements will be made in early 1997, but you have to be on Team San Francisco to get discounts and be included. Dave recommends that athletes start saving now, considering that a modest budget for the week's activities (August 1-9, 1998) will come to about \$2,000, not including tchotchke shopping and hash bar buffet items.

If you've been thinking about getting on a team of your choice, or competing individually, now's the time to do it. The advantages of pre-registration include getting a better chance of placement in sports, particularly in those extremely popular sports like Marathon, Bowling, and Ballroom Dancing.

Ballroom Dancing? Yes, kids, you heard it here. This is definitely going to be a different kind of Gay Games, and Ballroom Dancing, that odd mix of terpsichorean flair and taste-challenged attire, will be included.

Now, I liked the film *Strictly Ballroom* a lot, and as a former professional dancer, I enjoy all forms of creative movement. But I think the musical stylings and, shall we say, ambiance of ballroom dancing might not be for all tastes. What we need are other competitive dance events that are inclusive of youth and people who dance to a different drummer. So I'm offering to volunteer my skills to head up the first Competitive Mosh Pit Team.

Mosh ado

Moshing, known in its early days as Slam Dancing, is a misunderstood combination of sport, social activity, antisocial statement, and aerobic activity. Yes, you can lose pounds while losing your hearing.

At a recent Tool concert, I noted the numerous homoerotic exercise opportunities of moshing, which gave rise to the conception of this sport. In the same vein as extreme sports, which include such activities as taxi windsurfing and skyscraper hang-gliding, it has become apparent that traditional sports don't combine the needed contemporary thrills and chills of *fin de siècle* culture. Thus the practicality of Competitive Moshing.

Along the lines of a marathon, entry contestants will be required to don appropriate gear. Long frizzy hair is forbidden, since many contestants will spend a great deal of time mashed in close proximity to other contestants. And although competitive moshing is certainly a co-gender sport, it has been a tradition for the environs to become less aggressive with the presence of women or small people of any gender.

The advantage, however, of small weight and size is the relative increase in potential flying. Flying is when someone else hoists a moshers up into the crowd, with slight forewarning of surrounding moshers. Said flyer then proceeds to attempt to remain above the crowd, with the assistance of surrounding moshers. This is where the true democratic nature of moshing comes

in. Even competitive team members will always lend a hand, particularly if said competitor is young, attractive, sweaty, and semi-nude. Tattoos are a plus.

On the further subject of losing articles of clothing: Losing footwear can either be a demerit or a plus, depending on style. Most moshers prefer to wear the traditional steel-toed boot (Doc Martin is being considered as a corporate sponsor), but lighter weight moshers in the flying category often choose lighter footwear (Timberlands) to prevent injury of non-flyers.

Shirt tossing, a necessity after several rounds, can gain points only if the shirt lands onstage. If a musician does anything amusing or obscene with said item, further points can be gained.

Bounce and swirl

In the Advanced level of Stage Diving, the usual rules apply. If you survive, you get points. Weight requirements must be met. Anyone over two hundred pounds will usually find opponents and teammates alike running away from said stage diver. It is, after all, a competitive sport.

Water, food, and stimulants should remain in the less active recesses of the stage area, but frequent breaks should be allowed to further potential social interaction. This is where we get into the high end of Experienced Only moshing: The Swirl.

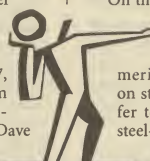
Through a unique combination of physics, momentum, and some psychotic guy who starts it all, the usual back-and-forth movement that makes for great body crunching opens out into a swirling mass of people, a small eye-of-the-twister centrifugal pit of flinging shoving people. While violence is in the air, it is usually left to interpretive dance, a sort of merry-go-round of running, skipping, and rolling, depending on a moshers' control.

Volunteer marshals, who stand around the perimeter, are always appreciated. Entering the center of a Swirl usually feels great, and can gain points and prestige. In the case of the Free Tibet concert, with two stages, an advantage of stage design included the mid-stage walkway, which divided the mosh crowd into two swirls, which usually rotated in opposing directions. It must have been all that Buddhist ambience.

The divided stage's runway allowed exhausted athletes to be delicately passed up to the caring arms of stage security gentlethugs, who considerably escorted the tired moshers to intimate private refreshments with offstage performers; that, or they tossed them into the fiery mouth of Moloch.

Competitive Moshing can also be tied into the cultural events at Gay Games V, whose theme, by the way, is "Friendship," so brush up on your foreign language of choice. Per me, *ho studiato motto bene!* I propose that Competitive Moshing be added to Gay Games V, or VI, which might be taking place in Australia, in which case the swirls will spin in the opposite direction. ▼

For more information on Team San Francisco, call (415) 522-2386. For more information on moshing, see you at the next Extra Fancy show.



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Bashed

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to respond, I was hit in the back of the head," he recalled.

Stunned, Rosemond crumpled to the ground. When he landed on his back, he noticed there were two assailants, but the attacker who had initially approached him did most of the talking.

"He wanted money. He begged for money. He took my pager and my watch. They debated whether to take my shoes. He pulled out a knife and began to try to stab me in the stomach, but my hand went up and pushed his wrist away each time," Rosemond said.

"I said, 'Look, I'm already bleeding badly, you don't want to get my blood on you. I have HIV.' That kind of freaked them out,

but the leader said, 'Aren't you ready to die already, then?'"

When the attacker told him to turn over, Rosemond knew that the assailant was intent on killing him, but said he managed to turn the roll into a sprit push and to run away.

"I knew they were planning to kill me. I ran but I fell down, so I got back up and kept running — on a twisted ankle," he said.

Rosemond managed to make it to an apartment complex in the vicinity — where an emergency medical technician who heard the incident from his apartment called police and applied first aid.

The two women police officers who responded to the scene "were great," Rosemond said.

As the officers were taking the report, they received a report of a similar bat attack in the area, by

men with the same description.

Rosemond says that he is still in shock over the incident, and finds himself unable to stop mentally replaying the attack, a common post-traumatic response to violence, experts say.

The suspects in the incident were described as white males in their late teens or early 20s. One of the attackers was 5'10" and weighed about 140-150 pounds, with shoulder-length blonde-brown hair. He wore a black coat adorned with safety pins and other dangling items. The second suspect was 6' tall and an estimated 180 pounds, who wore a skit cap and three-quarter-length pants.

"They looked like street kids that you always see on Haight Street," Rosemond said. "They were very dirty." ▼

Sapphistication

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say "I told you so!" I'll leave you with a slogan. "The Stop CCRI campaign: it just didn't cut it."

Save the Nasty Letters Dept.: Margaret Deirdre O'Hartigan has sent this paper copies of the Seattle Human Rights Commission's August 15, 1996 order on appeal remanding her case to the Human Rights Department for further investigation. While my source for the camping trip story confirms she can document that incident, I'm happy to correct any factual error on my part.

Until January 30, 1994, the Seattle Bisexual Women's Network's policy had been to ask transsexuals not to attend its Monday night coming-out sup-

port group meetings, which were "for women who were new to the sexual minority community and who had felt threatened and overwhelmed by the overly political nature of [SBWN]'s Sunday night support group meetings." SBWN did exclude O'Hartigan from two Monday night meetings, but convinced the Human Rights Department it had not acted unfairly because "[o]ne of the exceptions to the right of access guaranteed by [the non-discrimination statute] is where 'the actions of the person seeking full enjoyment of the place of public accommodation ... constitute(s) a risk to property or to other persons'" (original ellipsis). The Commission found the Department had not shown by a preponderance of the evidence that this exclusion applied, and remanded the complaint. ▼

Brown

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out political, and now Graham is a machine and his organization is a machine. We won't let that machine roll over black people, women and minorities while he takes pictures with those who are antithetical to our social, educational, and economic advancement.

"Graham has been with that same crowd that's been against civil rights. He says he's apolitical, but he's been in the White House rubbing elbows with presidents, staying in the Lincoln bedroom through every administration I can remember. He was inside the White House with George Bush while Bush's own pastor was outside picketing over the Persian Gulf War."

Insulting fad

As for Promise Keepers, Brown said the organization, which was started by Denver coach Bill ("I never had a fag on my football team") McCartney, "is like every fad religious movement spawned during periods of social and political crisis."

Brown said he became suspicious when McCartney refused to answer questions about his funding sources and members of

Promise Keepers board of directors. The ministerial association then withheld support of Promise Keepers.

In addition, Brown described the Promise Keepers organization as "insulting," saying, "They did not respect traditional black leadership, they went outside the established church community to seek support for an unbalanced program. Just like an airplane can't fly with just one wing, this program cannot continue without some commitment to social justice and social accountability."

"The program is simply not balanced," Brown said. "You can have a big spiel and videos and pack 60,000 men into stadiums and you can trot out one black man to testify that he quit a six-figure job because his little girl said she didn't know him. I say the man was a fool and just needed to balance his priorities. But this kind of imbalance is seen throughout the whole structure — there is no social and political balance."

"It's all well and good for the individual to take responsibility for his family and his church — but what about social accountability and responsibility?"

"They can say all they want that it's not political, but none of us was born yesterday — we know what we're seeing." ▼

Creating Change

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community. I think that would be strategically unwise."

'Bully pulpit'

Keith Boykin, executive director of the National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum, shared part of a letter he was drafting to President Clinton. "I implore you to use the full power of the presidency by embracing the more difficult challenge of uniting the country. What America needs now is leadership... perhaps most importantly from its president."

"Now that you have been elected, I urge you to take on the most critical challenge facing the Republic: How can and must a society of 260 million very different people peacefully and respectfully coexist?"

Boykin urged Clinton to "use the power of the bully pulpit to confront racism, sexism, xenophobia, homophobia, and AIDS-phobia" and to keep promises

such as welfare reform.

There was a health policy focus to comments by both Marj Plumb, consultant to the National Center for Lesbian Rights, and Rea Carey with the National Youth Advocacy Coalition.

Plumb discussed the progress made on women's and lesbian health issues over the last four years and expressed hope that it would continue. But she also feared that the health and social services "safety net is becoming a dilly."

"Welfare has been repealed," she said. "We need to make sure it does the least amount of harm."

She turned to HIV. "We have to stand firm here. No one, no one, no one gets mandatory tested. Ever, ever, ever. It's a bottom line, it doesn't change." Needle exchange has to "get back on the agenda" because "it is the right thing to do, it stops transmission." The position of Surgeon General has been vacant for two years because of a political spat between Clinton and Republicans. "HELLO," she said. "Can we get

over that now?"

Plumb made a pointed comment to those organizations "who endorsed the president, especially those who endorsed really early," to hold the administration accountable for appointments and money to serve the needs of the lesbian and gay community.

Carey worries that "so many young people fully expect to become HIV-infected and see it as part of becoming involved in the gay community." Special concern must be given to prevention messages in light of the optimistic news about protease inhibitors because "young people are beginning to think, 'Oh, I can become infected and it will become a manageable disease.'"

She called for a meeting of national organizations within the next two months to "learn our lessons from the last years" on what worked and what didn't. And to plan a realistic strategy for the next several years. "We need to have our own agenda. We also need to acknowledge that the White House has its own agenda." ▼

ACT UP

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months of letter writing, phone calls by AIDS activists, and ACT UP/Golden Gate's flyer of the company's symposia and promotional meetings.

Saquinavir and Indinavir

There has been considerable discussion of combining saquinavir with another protease inhibitor in order to increase bioavailability (the amount of drug that actually reaches the bloodstream) and antiviral activity. While the combination of ritonavir + saquinavir has received considerable attention, some researchers and PWAs have expressed interest in the combination of saquinavir and indinavir.

According to an abstract (1002) presented at the ICAAC conference, this combination may not be a good idea. An in vitro (test tube) study of this combination presented at the conference found that the combination was much less effective than expected, suggesting that the benefit may not be worth the cost, inconvenience, and potential toxicity.

The study found that the combined activities of indinavir and saquinavir are less than would be expected given the activities of

the two drugs alone. Interestingly, this effect varied with the resistance of the virus to AZT and other reverse transcriptase inhibitors. While this combination was effective against wild-type (non-drug resistant) virus at low concentrations, the two drugs interfered with one another at higher doses. In contrast, the two drugs interfered with one another at all concentrations tested when used against AZT-resistant virus. According to the poster, this antagonism was also seen with virus resistant to multiple nucleoside and non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors. The authors hypothesize that while competition for binding sites may play a role, they also suggest the two drugs may compete for uptake by the cell.

According to the conclusions section of the poster, "In the present study, we have demonstrated a mostly antagonistic interaction effect of combining the HIV-1 protease inhibitors saquinavir and indinavir against a panel of clinical isolates of varying susceptibility to reverse transcriptase inhibitors and non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors. These results suggest that the combination of protease inhibitors may not result in as great a suppression of viral load as desired." ▼

Gay candidates

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Joaquin Rivera. As a result, neither ran much of a campaign, although both did participate in local Democratic club endorsement meetings and received support from virtually everyone. Election results were not surprising. With all 116 precincts reporting, Doolan received 19,831 votes and Rivera got 18,867.

One gay candidate was not successful in his race: Greg Alves finished sixth in his bid for a seat on the Alameda City Council. Ten candidates campaigned for two seats, one of which was won by

incumbent Al DeWitt, who finished first with 7,103 votes. Candidate Barbara Kerr finished second with 6,152 votes. Alves received 3,652 votes. ▼

Breast cancer

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wide strategies to cope with containing the disease. The stage at which the cancer is diagnosed is a major predictor of survival, yet 46 percent of women over 40 have not had a mammogram within the past two years. The percentages are even higher for minority and low-income women.

According to Breast Cancer Action, women under the age of 35 have the lowest breast cancer survival rate of any age group. Yet they're least likely to receive screening tests.

"Developing strategies similar to those used to fight AIDS is a goal of today's summit," Hernandez said. "We've learned that all of the issues in the AIDS epidemic are faced by women diagnosed with breast cancer."

In an effort to reach even more of the public, a videotape of the summit is being broadcast on Citywatch, cable channel 54 in San Francisco, throughout November. For playback times, call (415) 557-4293. ▼



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The following person(s) are doing business as MACK TEAM REGIME, 2311 Bourbon Ct., South San Francisco, CA 94080: Vinson E. Johnson, 2311 Bourbon Ct., South San Francisco, CA 94080. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct 18, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Vinson Johnson. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 18, 1996. Oct 24, 31, Nov. 7, 14, 1996.

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the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Gregory Boyd. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 7, 1996. Oct 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208774

The following person(s) are doing business as MODERN AUTO TOWING, 5662 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94112: Paul Sanson, 906 Skyline Dr., Daly City, CA 94015. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct 10, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Paul Sanson. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 10, 1996. Oct 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209107

The following person(s) are doing business as SUPERIOR MARINE CANVAS, 400 Alabama Street, San Francisco, CA 94110: Claudine Bailey, 3245 Glendora Drive, San Mateo, CA 94403. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct 1, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Claudine Bailey. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 5, 1996. Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, 1996.

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LEGAL
NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FILE NO. 208926

The following person(s) are doing business as
JUST FABRICS, 92 Waterville Street,
San Francisco, CA 94124: Doris Onye-
maechi Person, 92 Waterville St., San
Francisco, CA 94124. Registrant(s) com-
menced business under the above fictitious
business name on the date of Oct 29,
1996. This business is conducted by an in-
dividual. Signed Doris O. Person. This
statement was filed with the County Clerk
of the City and County of San Francisco,
CA on October 29, 1996.
Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, 1996.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT

OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

STATEMENT FILE NO. 201096

The following person has abandoned the
use of the fictitious business known as DIG
IT, at 301 Arkansas St., San Francisco,
CA 94110.

The fictitious name referred to above was
filed in the County of San Francisco on
December 29, 1995.

Name and Address of registrant: CRAIG
WILKES DESIGN, 1717 Alabama St.,
San Francisco, CA 94110. This business
was conducted by a corporation.
Signed: CRAIG WILKES, President.
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk of San Francisco County on the San
Francisco County on the date October 8,
1996. Gregory J. Diaz, County Clerk
Recorder, by Keith Wong.
Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FILE NO. 209261

The following person(s) are doing business as
SHAMROCK PAINTING, 113 Clayton
St., San Francisco, CA 94117: Bernard
A. Wallace, 113 Clayton St., San Francis-
co, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced
business under the above fictitious busi-
ness name on the date of Nov 12, 1996.
This business is conducted by an individ-
ual. Signed Bernard A. Wallace. This
statement was filed with the County Clerk
of the City and County of San Francisco,
CA on November 12, 1996.
Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FILE NO. 209082

The following person(s) are doing business as
CLOUD'S REST HEALING CENTER,
LLC, 2717 Judah St., San Francisco, CA
94122: Cloud's Rest Healing Center, LLC
(CA), 2717 Judah St., San Francisco, CA
94122. Registrant(s) commenced business
under the above fictitious business name
on the date of Oct 22, 1996. This business
is conducted by limited liability company.
Signed A. Zancanella, Managing Partner.
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk of the City and County of San Fran-
cisco, CA on November 4, 1996.
Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5, 1996.

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To Whom It May Concern:

The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are:
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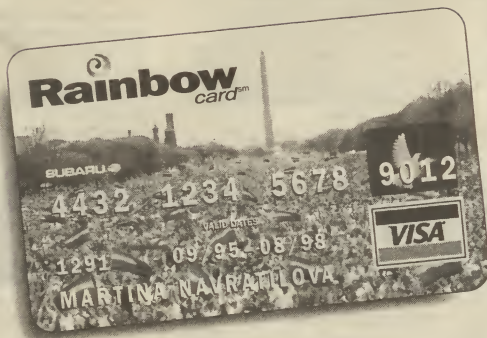
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Michelangelo Antonioni's 1982 film
Identification of a Woman *isn't quite*
L'Avventura but it's better than Ransom.
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Chad Jones reviews
Berkeley Rep's Love!
Valour! Compassion!
page 46



Microcosmos: getting
up close and personal
with Mother Nature's bugs.
See Calendare, page 52



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

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Who's that dyke?

Queen Latifah gets bent

by Gary Morris

Black urban melodramas like *Boyz n the Hood* and *Juice* have been mostly a "male thing," with men in front of and behind the cameras. Women characters in these films have typically been underwritten, or, if not written off completely, restricted to the odious "bitch/ho" category. As hideous as this trend is, it shouldn't be too surprising: even marginalized groups tend to mimic certain aspects — no matter how reprehensible — of the dominant culture.

Set It Off, directed by F. Gary Gray (*Friday*), is a welcome exception. This violent but lively, often compelling film may at

page 43 ►

From left to right:
Queen Latifah,
Kimberly Elise,
Vivica Fox, and
Jada Pinkett,
in *Set It Off*.



D. Stevens / New Line Cinema

Deep space five

Five Lesbian Brothers lost in space

by Erin Blackwell

The Five Lesbian Brothers' space comedy *Brides of the Moon* promises an evening of deadpan ridiculousness it only half fulfills. While the fabulous fivesome generates irresistible onstage personae, the script by committee provides a vehicle unable to boost that performance payload.

As befits a suspense-riddled disaster comedy in which timing is everything, *Brides* happens in two places at once. Set designer Nancy Bardawil has painted a gorgeous split-screen backdrop, setting a suburban kitchen in Ohio smack dab against a control room somewhere in deep space.

For the better part of an overlong two hours, we watch an off-her-rocker housewife-cum-blacklisted rocket scientist (Peg Healy) talk the troubled "Brides" mission through a crisis, maintaining radio contact through a malfunctioning microwave oven. There's a plethora of dramatic detail that doesn't really go anywhere, but does provide a pretext for the performers to demonstrate their infinite variety.

Healy invests the chain-smoking nut case, who's really a genius in disguise, with the vocal patterns of a Carol Channing minus the toothy grin. Her portrayal of the mission's token chimp, on the other hand, serves mainly to demonstrate an enviable set of hamstrings.

Lisa Kron's cosmonaut is a lecherous bulldagger in a silver vinyl babushka; her thirtysomething science nerd, the play's nominal protagonist (who never really takes off), is as bashful as a young Ron Howard.

In elbow-length latex gloves and a silver plastic beret, Maureen Angelos exudes intensity as Gabrielle, the requisite crewmember haunted by a failed mission in her past. She is just as intense, but less comically effective, as Lynn, the revenge-fueled navigator dropped from the team by ex-lover Commander Tylie Holway.

Looking like Tom Cruise and acting like a butch Robert Redford, Dominique Dibbell brings pathetic dignity to the role of the Commander. She even proves

page 45 ►

The Fraternal Sapphic Quintet debuts *Brides of the Moon*,
at Theatre Rhinoceros through December 15.



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PHOTO: HOT HOUSE

OUT THERE

by Chris Culwell
and Pithy Galore

We think the title of **Barbra Streisand's** new film, *The Mirror Has Two Faces*, is quite amusing, only because the star herself must have been looking in the glass when she coined the moniker. And though the Nose that Ate Manhattan may have been shocked to see two mugs staring back at her, those of us with long memories aren't surprised at all. Yes, we've known for many a year now that there are two Miss Fanny Brices: the one whose sweet, endearing visage we've watched grow younger and younger over three decades in direct proportion to the number of lighting and special effects people listed in her films' credits; and the nasty snippy one she keeps locked away and allows out only when in the presence of unfortunate studio underlings — hairdressers, costumers, interviewers — in short, all the people who keep the Streisand juggernaut going.

We mention Streisand Polar Opposite Syndrome only because we've learned that during her recent LA/New York press junkets for *Two Faces*, which opens here next week, Babs routinely reduced studio people to tears. Our source, the intrepid LA-based **Oily Avian One**, said Babs "insisted on elaborate wardrobe changes for every press interview" and that "she kept studio staff and newspaper people holed up until eleven o'clock at night." If you don't believe us, just ask some of the folks at the *SF Chronicle*, who, when they showed up at the appointed time and place to see the Queen, were kept waiting three to four hours to meet the Unfunny Lady.

Oily also told us that Babs made life hell for photographers, who were given specific instruction on how she was to be photographed, from what angles, and under "very specific lighting conditions."

Oily wouldn't tell us much about the film itself, only that it's about a homely woman who longs to be attractive and who wants (violins up with a swell) to be loved by everyone, especially her father, but who has been cast aside because she's always been an ugly duckling. You don't have to be **Sigmund Freud** to know that this is Babs' life story, and she's been telling it for 30 years.

Milkmania

Saturday night at the Orpheum Theatre brought the long-awaited San Francisco premiere of **Stewart Wallace** and **Michael Korie's** three-act opera *Harvey Milk*. As expected, the response was mixed. Some queens we overheard at intermission — queens of a certain age — seemed to enjoy the opera, no doubt because they either knew **Harvey Milk** or at least have vivid memories of San Francisco in the late '70s, Milk's heyday. But for those not old enough to remember those halcyon days, the distance in time made it easy to disparage the work free of guilt. "The sets are so high school," whined a **bitter ennui queen** sitting near us. "Did somebody actually write that music, or are we hearing overflow from Burger King's Muzak tape?" asked a petulant **GQ model** near the men's room.

But despite all the critics on hand Saturday, people seemed to be having a great time. The audi-



Barbra Streisand

ence loved that Gay Parade scene, in particular that improbably Vegasy Castro Street sign that drops from the fly space on the cue of a bass drum. And we

didn't fail to notice that the yawning, operaphobic chatterboxes seated near us closed their flapping traps when that brace of muscle boys in bath towels sashayed onstage. We were also pleased to see **SF Opera** regulars

— matrons with blue hair, oversized hand bags, and walkers — whooping it up over lines like "Who is Tessi Tura?" and the sight of dancing drag queens and "Lutherans for Gay Rights" placards.

But, judging from audience response Saturday, everybody's favorite scene in *Harvey Milk* is at the top of Act III, when the curtain rises on **Dianne Feinstein** played magnificently across the top of a desk, *Planet of the Apes* hairdo intact, screaming into two phones whilst barking at her underlings. **Juliana Gondek's** vivid personification of **DiFi** probably wasn't meant to be an impersonation, but its underscoring of a personality refulgent with power and self-absorption sure seems accurate, especially when she storms around the stage like **Mussolini in drag** and prattles on about the "art of the schmooze."

We thought we might see **Dianne** herself schmoozing at **Dan Nicoletta's** swank post-performance party at his Fell Street studio, but the only celebrity we spotted there — and she's not really in DiFi's league — was *Joy Luck Club* author **Amy Tan**.

It's raining weeds

Something has got to be done about that hardy but hideous San Francisco Opera perennial, **The Flower Thrower**. Once again this **banal idiot**, who has nothing better to do in life but to gloat on to other people's parades, was down in front of the stage at the end of *Harvey Milk* last Saturday night throwing — nay, literally hurling — squalid little clutches of cuttings at the singers, who once again stood there patiently and allowed themselves to be drizzled with weeds for the absurd amusement of this emotional troglodyte. Thankfully, one cast member during the curtain call refused to be demoralized by this freak show and hurled the vegetation back from whence it came.

Good for him. Unfortunately,

this small revolutionary gesture will probably only inspire the Banal One to hurl his gulfplankton ever-more ferociously. Will no one put a stop to this degenerate, confervoid spectacle? The only thing to do, save convincing every florist in SF to stop selling flowers to this cretin, is simply to ignore his nightly rain of greenery, pretend it isn't happening and just keep on clapping, instead of allowing the applause to diminish between hurlings. It's that silence, with its promise of imminent swells of applause, that eggs him on.

Crossing the Rubicon

Anti-Gay is a soon-to-be-published book from the U.K. (Freedom Editions) consisting of essays — screeds, actually — about queer culture penned by a coterie of semi-marginal scribes who describe themselves as "non-heterosexuals," or, more accurately, homosexuals who are sick of being gay. The issues dealt with in these pages concern such matters as the mindless mediocrity of gay culture (**Toby Manning**); how lesbian fashion engenders "a contempt for femininity" (**Anne-Marie Le Ble**); the conspicuous hostility homosexuals show toward bisexuals (**Jo Eadie**); and much more.

The tone of the book is best captured in author **John Weir's** incardinate manifesto "Going In," in which he writes: "Homosexuality is being repackaged and resold to Americans as a traditional family value. And homosexuals are emerging as the yuppies of the '90s. They're the new class of urban professionals with money to spend and aggressively marketed products to choose from. Absolut Vodka, Ikea, Benetton, Dewar's, Calvin Klein, Levis 501s, Brad Pitt, and Nine Inch Nails are just a few of the commodities secretly or openly aimed at upwardly mobile, straight-acting, white-appearing gay guys and the handful of lesbians with comparable economic power. The collective impulse of the chic lesbians and the brave young gay Republi-

cans who captivate the media today and titillate each other is shopping."

Irreverent and quite current in its many cultural references, *Anti-Gay* makes for fascinating reading, though, ultimately, substance here is forfeited for pithiness. That feeling of cheapness was most tangible when we perused **Bruce LaBruce's** contribution, "A Case for the Closet." Not even a brain-damaged cow could entertain the notion of the creator of crapsterpieces like *No Skin Off My Ass* and *Hustler White* as a profound, or even slightly interesting, social critic. Back to the drawing board, boys and girls.

Oops!

We enjoyed the *SF Weekly's* film issue last week, although we couldn't help but notice that the round-up of noteworthy SF film festivals was hardly complete and, in fact, failed to mention one of the city's most important film events — the queer film festival. So, in the interest of Frameline, the producers of the annual Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, and in

the memory of the late **Mark Finch**, who effectively put it on the film map: the queer film fest happens every year in June (mid-month) at the Castro Theatre, the Roxie Cinema, and other venues throughout San Francisco.

The best part of the *Weekly's* film spread, however, was the roundtable, in which Castro Theatre programmer **Anita Monga** reminisced about being slapped across the face by a **loquacious cow** who took offense when told by Monga to stop talking during a screening of **Wim Wenders' Kings of the Road**. You may not get the humor in this, but perhaps it's because you don't know Monga, who is probably the sweetest person on earth.

Critic cuts loose

Finally, was that really the word **rodomontade** we read recently in one of **Joshua Korman's** reviews? We knew the *Chronicle's* music critic was smart, that he could muster verbal grandiloquence like the best of 'em, but we didn't know he was *recherché*, too! ▼

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Emily Watson and Katrin Cartlidge in *Breaking the Waves*.

Dark angel

Lars von Trier's 'Breaking the Waves'

by Gary Morris

Danish director Lars von Trier is best known for his bizarre European TV series *The Kingdom*, which became an art house hit in the U.S. several years ago. *The Kingdom* was a complex satire of cradle-to-the-grave socialism set in a Copenhagen hospital. Von Trier's latest film, *Breaking the Waves*, is at once more intimate and expansive, a highly effective if exceedingly downbeat romance that takes place in the '70s on the rugged north coast of Scotland.

A mere plot summary might suggest that this film is the stuff of penny dreadfuls. The setting is a tiny, insular, ultra-religious community bound by archaic notions of good and evil. Women have it particularly hard here, as they are expected to conform to a social norm that could best be described by the mantra: "shut up and re-

produce." Bucking this trend, perhaps unwittingly, is Bess (Emily Watson), a naive, backward young girl who falls in love with Jan (Stellan Skarsgard), a sexy Scandinavian oil-rig worker. The town tolerates Bess as a sort of village idiot, but when she marries Jan,

prehend or deal with her husband's departure, in particular the sudden evaporation of her sexual life. Believing she can communicate directly with God, she prays for his return. The wish is granted, but when Jan returns, it's on a stretcher, the result of a crippling

Women have it hard here, as they are expected to conform to a social norm best described by the mantra "shut up and reproduce."

her family and the rest of the town become increasingly disturbed by what appears to be Bess' giddy, unapologetic sexual liberation.

Soon after the wedding, however, Jan is forced to return to sea, and Bess seems unable to com-

accident. In Bess' mind, which has been warped by her Protestant upbringing, she believes she has caused the accident by asking for his return.

At this point, the film breaks away from its melodramatic origins. Jan, permanently hospitalized and paraplegic, seems to want Bess to forget him and resume a normal life with a new man. Bess is simple-minded enough to take him literally, and suddenly she begins exchanging her plain frocks for leather miniskirts, fishnets, and halter-tops with plunging necklines. Seemingly mindlessly, Bess starts pursuing every man she can find in the interest of being an obedient wife. She buggers a startled old man on a bus, initiates a desperate roadside quickie, and eventually becomes every sailor's girlfriend by taking a dinghy out to a ship where she allows herself to be gang-raped and beaten by the men aboard (one of whom is the reliably odious Udo Kier). Bess relays her sexual exploits to Jan, whose mixture of solace and ecstasy at hearing these tales suggests he is a helpless voyeur.

Bess' physical and moral decline is balanced by her continual attempts to attend church, have conversations with God, and remain close to her understanding sister-in-law, Dodo (*Naked's* Katrin Cartlidge). But things turn ugly for Bess when an event from the past comes back to haunt her. At a funeral she once attended, the dead person was refused burial in sacred ground and denounced by the town elders as a sinner. This memory becomes reality when Bess is barred from the church, rejected by her mother, and literally stoned by a group of boys who denounce her as a whore. Though it's hard to imagine it possible, the film grows even darker from this point on.

Emily Watson excels in the difficult role of Bess, and hunky Stellan Skarsgard balances her nervous power with his quiet intensity. Von Trier used hand-held cameras extensively to capture the ragged dynamics of their relationship, in particular the beautifully vivid wedding sequence. Inexplicably, the film is set in the '70s, with appropriate music by Elton John, T-Rex, Mott the Hoople, David Bowie, and Jethro Tull. The period feel is convincing enough but the conceit is unnecessary: repressive communities like Bess' are, unfortunately, timeless. ▼

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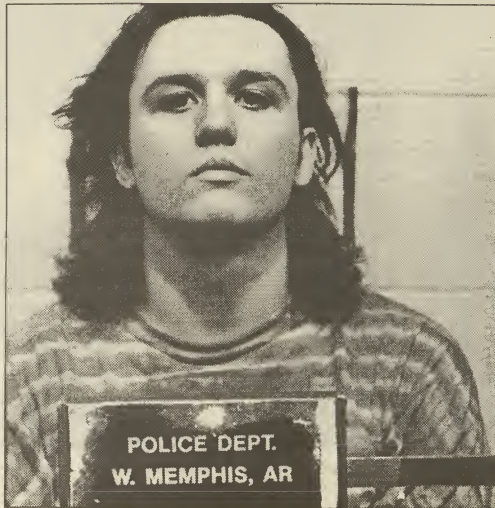
Southern discomfort

'Paradise Lost': small minds wreak havoc

by Gary Morris

The expression "Southern Justice" is a well-known oxymoron, kind of like "jumbo shrimp." In the case of Joe Berlinger and Bruce Sinofsky's documentary *Paradise Lost*, "justice" is meted out to three Arkansas teenagers who dared to dress in black and listen to Metallica. Their crime? They supposedly abducted three eight-year-old boys, sexually assaulted, mutilated, and killed them, and, perhaps, even cannibalized them. The evidence? The forced confession of a borderline-retard who got all the facts wrong. As the filmmakers make clear, no physical or even circumstantial evidence linked the defendants to the crime, and, ultimately, it was their black clothes, Stephen King novels, and heavy-metal music that sent them to jail.

This horrifying story, told through interviews with everyone involved, from investigators to members of the victims' families, is often grueling to watch, not only because of the graphic footage of the boys' dead bodies but because we see the suffocating mores of a small Southern town smash the lives of three obviously innocent teenagers who have been convicted of a crime solely because their fashion sensibility and taste in music deviated from the norm. Even worse, though, is the film's revelation that some cir-



West Memphis Police mug shot of Damien Wayne Echols.

cumstantial and physical evidence points to one of the fathers, a religious fanatic with a history of violence against kids, as the real killer.

On the filmmakers' website is a bitter coda to the doomed life of the alleged ringleader, the soft-spoken Damien Echols. Waiting on death row to be murdered by lethal injection, he has been repeatedly raped and beaten by an-

other inmate who was encouraged by guards. When asked about this abuse, his response is as shattering as it is pathetic: "I know I was meant to die here. I just want people to let me alone until that time comes." ▼

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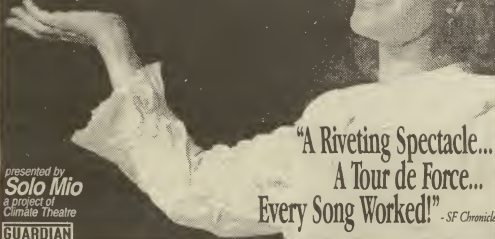
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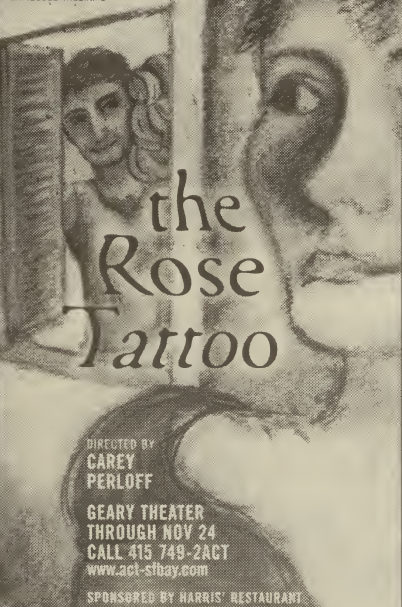
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Niccolo (Tomas Milian) and Ida (Christine Boisson).

Dream lover

Antonioni's 'Identification of a Woman'

by Gary Morris

When Michelangelo Antonioni was in Los Angeles in 1995 to receive the coveted Lifetime Achievement Oscar, he was quoted as saying that he loved the city "for its wide open spaces." The director suffered a semi-paralyzing stroke in 1985 and his wife, Enrico Fico, who "translates" for him in public, explained that LA offered "the kind of spaces he has always needed."

That need for space — large empty rooms, endless expanses of sky, land, and sea — has been a constant motif in all of the Italian filmmaker's works. Amazingly, in each film he has made, Antonioni extrapolates the physical into the philosophical in such a way that these enigmatic spaces emphasize the gulf between individuals who long to connect, or underscore our innate human need for oblivion. In *L'Avventura*, a woman literally vanishes into a picturesque island landscape. In *La Notte*, the dark of night becomes a protective shell for a woman seeking refuge from a life she suddenly realizes isn't the one she thought she was living, and in *The Passenger*, the vast blinding desert of North Africa inspires a bored reporter to change identities with a dead man whose involvement with terrorists ensures his own death.

The sense of cosmic futility that rings in these despairing landscapes and protagonists is mirrored in the romantic entanglements of Antonioni's characters. Relationships in his films are halting, interrupted, elusive, often marked by the sudden disappearance of one or more parties. Male characters are frequently victims of failed, usually artistic, ambitions, a reflection, perhaps, of the director's own anxieties. *La Notte's* lead is a novelist who has run out of inspiration; in *L'Avventura*, a middle-aged man who dreamed of being an artist ruins the work of a younger man in a fit of jealous rage. The antithesis of this is the typical Antonioni heroine, who is usually a vibrant ideal that

remains always just out of reach, resistant to the male plea for sex. This emphasis on the dissatisfaction of romantic union is frequently played out in Antonioni's sex scenes, which are often shot and edited in a jarring style, emphasizing not bonding but separation, with disembodied arms and faces isolated in the frame.

Antonioni's *Identification of a Woman*, which was made in Italy in 1982 and never officially released in the U.S., is a ghostly reprise of the themes, characters, and motifs that dominate the director's greatest films. Again there is an artist in crisis, this time a film director, Niccolo (Tomas Milian), who is searching for two ideal women — one for a movie

a vow of love, but it's an empty gesture because he prefers an untouchable dream to tangible reality.

While *Identification of a Woman* has none of Antonioni's formal innovations — *The Eclipse's* hypnotic montage, *Red Desert's* searching camera and daring use of color photography, or *The Passenger's* breathtaking multi-layered structure — one stunning scene shows that the filmmaker's powers had not diminished even when, at age 70, he made this film. Niccolo and Mavi are on their way to the country for the weekend when suddenly they find themselves in fog so thick they are forced to the side of the road. Inexplicably, she leaves the

This is a skewed love triangle that recalls 'L'Avventura,' in which one member of a trio of intimates is present only in the minds of the others.

he has in mind, another who would be a life companion. He has a torrid affair with Mavi (Daniela Silverio), who runs in boring circles of the rich and powerful and who eventually disappears without warning from his life. Still longing for Mavi, he initiates a new relationship with an actress named Ida (Christine Boisson), who is pregnant by another man.

This is a skewed love triangle that recalls *L'Avventura*, in which one member of a trio of intimates is present only in the minds of the others. Even after Mavi leaves, Niccolo continues to seek her out, a feeling that Ida understands and abets by helping him look for her, as Sandro does for Claudia in *L'Avventura*. Of course, in Antonioni's world, romantic wrap-ups are impossible; because Niccolo's acceptance of Ida would mean the end of his passion for Mavi, he is ultimately unable to commit to Ida. Niccolo insists that she repeat

car and disappears into the fog, with Niccolo in desperate pursuit. A close reading of this scene suggests that the fog is the external manifestation of Niccolo's anxieties, his inability to grasp his own existence. Like the island in *L'Avventura*, this natural phenomenon, at once obscuring and seductive, lures the woman away from the man. Niccolo is forced to yield his ideal to the inevitability of nature, as Mavi subsequently vanishes forever from his life.

If this film is ultimately more discursive and less engaging than masterpieces like *L'Avventura* or *The Passenger*, it is still a powerfully despairing work in the true Antonioni mode. No one who admires the cinema of this important director should miss it. ▼

Identification of a Woman, in Italian with English subtitles, is at the Castro Theatre November 15-21.

FILM

Set It Off

◀ Arts cover

times resemble the work of black cinema darlings John Singleton and Spike Lee, but its heart really belongs to '70s blaxploitation flicks, whose most high-profile stars — Pam Grier and Tamara Dobson — were tough, no-nonsense gals who always got their way. Similar to those flicks, *Set It Off* features powerful women, but the film parts company with the past with its standout character, an overweight, pot-smoking bull dyke named Cleo, played with unflinching energy by rapper/TV sitcom (*Living Single*) maven Queen Latifah.

The plot is familiar, but because the film's principal roles are played by women, it feels fresh. Cleo and her three best friends grew up together in the poverty of the 'hood. As adults, all four work as janitors. Stony (Jada Pinkett) sidelines as a whore in order to send her little brother to college, only to see him gunned down by the police in a case of mistaken identity. Frankie's (Vivica A. Fox) career is ruined when an acquaintance robs the bank in which she works, resulting in her termination. Tisean (Kimberly Elise) struggles as a single mother whose child is unfairly taken away from her. Needless to say, these girls are dying for revenge against the system, and Frankie's knowledge of the inner workings of the bank provides the means. What follows is a series of tense robberies, with the stakes intensified as a cop becomes wise to them, and their old boss, the comic-abusive Luther (Thom Boyd), steals their stash.

Romantic elements are played down in favor of the almost non-stop gun battles, robberies and explosions, and the virtual four-way love affair between these devoted friends, who fight and make up with remarkable frequency. Frankie and Tisean don't seem to have boyfriends or husbands and neither seems to want them. Stony flirts with middle-class life when she dates a hunky financier (Blair Underwood), but this is a halting affair constantly inter-



Latifah's Cleo is an atypical movie lesbian: unglam, raw, no-nonsense.

rupted by the radical class difference between them. Cleo seems to have the most active, committed, and sexy relationship. Early in the film — to the screams of disgust of the adolescent audience I saw the film with — Cleo, standing on a busy street dressed in a regulation t-shirt and jeans, grabs her sleek girlfriend and shoves her tongue down her throat. Later, we see Cleo grin seductively as she watches Miss Cakes gyrate in a G-string. Typical of the film's unqualified endorsement of the character, the girls casually discuss the logistics of their next bank robbery as Cleo brazenly licks her lover's thighs.

Latifah's deglamorized Cleo — the strongest in a strong cast — is not the typical lipstick lesbian we usually see dropped into movies for the pleasure of panting het males. As enacted by Latifah, Cleo is a raw, powerful force who knows she has nothing to lose and

will fight for anything she thinks is right. Her butch bravado is the group's literal salvation in one scene, when she crashes the getaway car through the plate glass window of a bank to save her sisters. Queen Latifah is so credible as Cleo that anyone who doesn't know her as a het on TV might well ask, "Where'd they get that dyke?" ▼

Set It Off is in general release.

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Women in the dunes 'Prickly Pears'

by Jerry Metzker

Brava! for Women in the Arts continues to give voice to those who have been marginalized in our culture. The company's latest endeavor, a co-production with Bay Package Productions, is Sharon R. Beatty's *Prickly Pears*, directed by Ellen Chang (née Sebastian).

Prickly Pears is a dramatized folk tale about two women in the 1950s, Willi and Gracie, longtime friends and lovers, who have grown tired of living under men's thumbs and set out to make a life for themselves. After offing Willi's abusive husband, Walt, the two head to the Nevada desert where, in a tin shack, they start over.

With a hunting rifle, a Bible, and Gracie's love, Willi (Leontine Guilliard) is quite content. But Gracie (Chanelle Schaffer) is not so easily pleased. A singer by trade, she yearns to be where the action is, even if it means re-entering the male-dominated world. Still, they get along quite well, until a man intrudes on their peace. Fresh out of the slammer, Jimmy (Peter Macon) arrives at their door one night, dehydrated, half-starved, and suffering from tick fever. With little hesitation, Willi and Gracie take him in.

From the moment Jimmy arrives, the dynamics of the couple's relationship change. Jimmy quickly usurps Willi's role, declaring himself the man of the house, and Gracie, who is not opposed to the idea of a knight in shining armor who will sweep her back into civilization, falls for him. Only unhappiness can result from this scenario, and in this case, it's for all involved.



Peter Macon, Leontine Guilliard and Chanelle Schaffer.

Prickly Pears, Beatty's first professionally produced work, is an intimate play. Although she has created characters with enormous personalities, the magnitude of each is expressed through tiny but telling details. Thoughts and feelings are indicated with a modicum of words, and the action is sparse. Director Chang capitalizes on the intimacy by forcing the characters to relate to one another through facial expressions and body language. It's amazingly convincing.

The show would be even more persuasive if the production design were as defined as Chang's direc-

tion. However, Zeb Kalir's set, for all its striking detail, is a monolith that overwhelms the characters. That the Brava! space itself is cavernous — it's in the old York Theatre — doesn't help. Still, Beatty's voice is strong, and it is not difficult to be moved by the tale she has created. *Prickly Pears* is a story to be heard again and again. ▼

Prickly Pears runs through December 1 at the Brava Theatre Center, 2789 24th St. Call 647-BTCC for tickets and information.

In a queer groove

On Sunday, November 17, the Harvey Milk Institute will present "Queer Beats: A Symposium," a day-long conference exploring homosexuality and the Beat era, from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the San Francisco Art Institute, 800 Chestnut Street. Offered in conjunction with the de Young Memorial Museum exhibition "Beat Culture and the New America 1950-1965," the "Queer Beats" confab will provide

a series of panel discussions and readings by academic experts and Beat poets and writers. Topics of the panel discussions will include Beat Erotics, Queer Identity and Queer Beat Circles.

"In the midst of the most homophobic decade in American history — the '50s — a group of gay men and lesbians spawned an artistic and literary resistance movement whose ramifications are still being felt today," said Harvey Milk

Institute founder Jonathan Katz. "This symposium will address Beat identity, political, social and aesthetic resistance and sexuality."

Included among the panelists are Beat writers Bruce Boone, Robert Gluck, Lenore Kandel, Kevin Killian, Harold Norse, Mark Ewert and Aaron Shurin. Jonathan Katz will provide opening remarks.

Tickets for "Queer Beats: A Symposium" (\$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds) are available by calling the Harvey Milk Institute at (415) 552-7200. Box lunches are available for \$7. Space is limited; advance registration is encouraged. ▼

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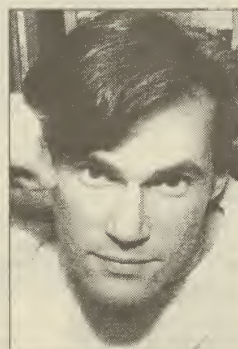
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Lesbian Brothers

Arts cover

cardboard can melt when she grabs onto Gaby's legs and starts humping away in a break-through burst of the love stuff.

Babs Davy displays mischievous ease in portraying both a platinum blonde space cadet and a Spencer Tracy-style Dad, com-

the gag up to another level of humor — like sexual jealousy involving the monkey — are only sketchily evoked.

The elements are there for a first-rate trip into the inner reaches of dyke cosmology, but they have yet to be given dramatically viable thrust. Here's wishing Director Kate Stafford and the Brothers a long run, so they can hone their business and

The elements are there for a first-rate trip into dyke cosmology, but they have yet to be given viable dramatic thrust.

plete with spare tire, knee-length stretch socks, and low-slung shorts unsettling in their anatomical suggestiveness.

What the Five Lesbian Brothers do best is take a convention and subvert it, while seeming to appear to take it seriously at face value. The clichés in question issue from current events, sociological trends, movies, TV, books and generalized cultural assumptions, like the "essence of Frenchness" — a beret, a butt, and a been-there, done-that ennui in the tired old face of love.

Judging from *Brides'* weak points, what the Fraternal Sapphic Quintet is not so good at is generating original comic material based on situation in the absence of post-modernist caricature. The *action* — which in their case really means the *humor* — slows down and dies entirely during the extended, earthbound scenes between the science nerd and the ejected navigator. Insufficiently focused as stereotypes, these half-baked characters converse mainly in overly detailed exposition, investing it with a misplaced maudlin sincerity.

Out in space, things aren't always that fast-moving either, but the sight of a space suit is inherently funny — especially when seen against a Starship Enterprise-type bay window looking out onto the Xmas tree lights of space. Unfortunately, the Brothers fail to harness the set up's potential, often settling for easy-to-get laughs based on titillating bodily functions.

Early into their trip, the crew discovers it has been equipped with sex-drive implants programmed to trigger orgasmic behavior every evening at 6:45. This lowbrow concept serves to bond the heretofore nominally straight "brides" into a tight-knit team of fuck buddies. Successive replays with only minor variations, however, and against all semblance of chronology, diminish the comic returns of this limited laugh-getter. Plot complications which might have goosed

jettison the flotsam. Even in their current state of textual disrepair, they still serve up some of the most two-fisted, fist-fuckingly sophisticated sapphist satire in the sororial solar system. So see it, sisters! ▼

Brides of the Moon continues at Theatre Rhinoceros through December 15. Call 861-5079 for tickets and information.



Five Lesbian Brothers, clockwise from top: Babs Davy, Moe Angelos, Peg Healey, Dominique Dibbel, and Lisa Kron

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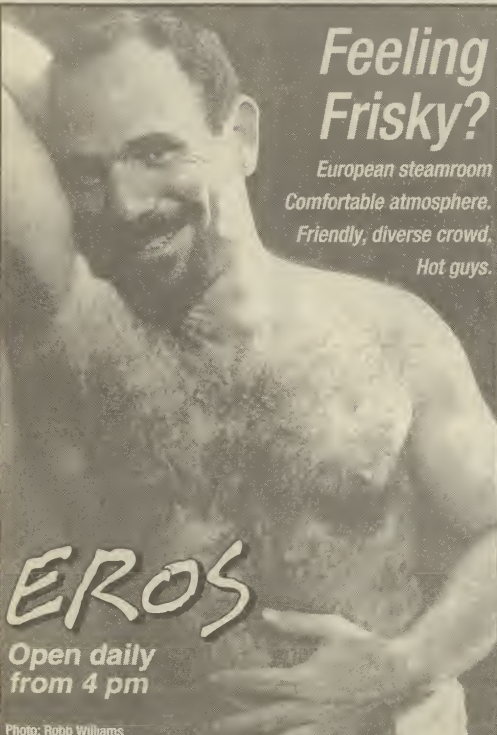
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Master sass

Cast is fab in Berkeley Rep's
'Love! Valour! Compassion!'

by Chad Jones

The great thing about Terrence McNally's *Love! Valour! Compassion!*, which opened last Wednesday at the Berkeley Repertory Theatre, is that the wonderful cast lives up to the three-word title. When I saw the play late in its Broadway run during the summer of 1995, the production had become tired, the performances lax. Tony Award for best play notwithstanding, the bare spots in McNally's writing had begun to show, and the play, about eight gay friends who spend Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day weekends together at a country home in upstate New York, suddenly started to feel underwhelming and dramatically incomplete.

But now *Love! Valour! Compassion!* has left the Great White Way and belongs to theater com-

panies in the provinces. Berkeley Rep joined forces with Seattle's Intiman Theatre for this production, and the results bring a warmth and humanity to the play that were missing on Broadway.

Nevertheless, the play still reveals itself to be far from perfect. For instance, it's too long by about an hour and, with some minor adjustments, could easily lose its second act. Three acts at three hours just doesn't suit a dramatic comedy and should be saved for the opera.

McNally is a writer of tremendous good humor, as he proved in *The Ritz*, *The Lisbon Traviata*, *Frankie and Johnny*, and his current Broadway hit, *Master Class*. And with a cast of seven wise-cracking gay characters, *LIV!C!* is certainly crammed with laughs. When Arthur, one of the house guests, discovers Bobby, the blind lover of the homeowner, in the middle of the night getting a drink in the kitchen, he notices a rather obvious stain on Bobby's pajamas. "You know what we used to call them in Catholic school? Nocturnal emissions. It's so much nicer than 'wet dream.' It always made me think of Chopin. Nocturnal Emission in C-sharp Minor." And Buzz, the show queen with AIDS (a role McNally wrote for Nathan Lane), is a hilarious, non-stop, one-liner machine whose jokes usually revolve around Broadway shows. When Perry (Arthur's lover) says he is pushing 40, Buzz cracks: "Not. You pushed 40 when *A Chorus Line* was still running."

The laughs don't stop in *LIV!C!*, but there's just too much of not much. There's not much plot, so the laughs (and the bounteous nudity) are what sustain interest, and dramatically speaking, that's not enough. The closest thing this play has to dramatic tension occurs when Bobby cheats on Gregory with studly Ramon, whose sole purpose in the play seems to encompass being ethnic and naked. There are minor tensions between Arthur and Perry, a "role model" couple who have been together for 14 years, but their relationship is solid and can easily withstand the blows of non-communication and conflict. There's the portentous drama of Buzz's illness, and the hateful relationship between the Jeckyll twins (in a theatrical conceit that works

beautifully in this production, John and James Jeckyll are played by the same actor), but there's not enough serious drama here to merit three hours.

Weaknesses of the play aside, this production features a cast of seven adept actors who, directed by the Intiman Theatre's Artistic Director Warner Shook, cull the very best from McNally's work. Patrick Kerr's Buzz is the scene stealer. A show tune-spouting comedian, Buzz has to be funny, annoying, and endearing simultaneously, all of which Kerr accomplishes while crafting a human being of incredible depth. Kerr's Buzz is the comic and emotional center of the play and stands out, even in this excellent cast.

Laurence Ballard has the difficult task of playing the unfortunately named Jeckyll twins, and he does so with a casual fluidity that belies the amazing work he is doing. Simply by combing his hair differently, altering his body language, and smiling more, Ballard goes from the nasty John to the guileless James with astonishing ease. In a showy but effective bit of writing, McNally has the twins confront one another, and Ballard pulls this scene off beautifully.

Rounding out the cast are James Carpenter (Arthur), Kevin Donovan (Perry, a wonderfully effective narrator), Jeffrey Hayenga (Gregory), Bruno Irizarry (the handsome and well-endowed Ramon), and Mark Schwötzer (Bobby), all of whom deliver strong performances.

Love! Valour! Compassion! is a very mainstream take on gay life. All of these men are white (except for Ramon, the sex object), have money, and are gainfully employed. They are definitely types, but ultimately what comes through in this production is the romance, humor, pettiness, intelligence, and, yes, the love, valor (the British spelling of "valour" is a joke in the play), and compassion with which these gay men live their lives and experience one another. These are tremendously positive things for audiences, both gay and straight, to be seeing on a stage and seeing together. ▼

Love! Valour! Compassion!
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BOOKS

Mr. Optimism

by Chad Jones

Showtune, a memoir by Jerry Herman with Marilyn Stasio; Donald I. Fine Books, New York, \$24.95

With a title like *Showtune*, celebrated lyricist/composer Jerry Herman's autobiography is not likely to skyrocket to the top of the bestseller charts. Indeed, this entertaining, relentlessly cheerful memoir is aimed at a very specific audience — musical theater lovers and show queens, which is not surprising, since its author is one of the greatest show queens of them all.

As both composer and lyricist, Herman is a member of that small but distinguished group of musical theater artists that includes

Herman is quite up front about his gayness. He sets a familiar scene when discussing his father: "I had a real rah-rah gym instructor for a father, an athletic man who wanted his son to be an athlete, too. What he got was this son who sat at the piano." Then he introduces his mother, Ruth, whom he loved dearly but lost early to cancer (at age 44), before she could see her son's success on Broadway. "I know that this sounds like a big cliché," writes Herman, "a gay boy who loves his mother — but my loving relationship with my mother happens to have been a huge part of my life."

Though the focus of *Showtune* never strays far from the shows, Herman does go into some detail about his slow sexual awakening and his brief but "lovely" — a



Jerry Herman

on and on. I would like it if every person I had ever known and loved could just go on living. I want everything in the world to be pink and blue and yellow and go on forever."

Herman has been criticized throughout his career for being the anti-Sondheim because he writes simple, upbeat songs with titles like "It's Today," "Before the Parade Passes By," "The Best of Times," and "Open a New Window." Well, the truth is we need an anti-Sondheim, and it may as well be someone as talented, tuneful, and optimistic as Jerry Herman. ▼

It was Finkelstein's death that prompted Herman to get tested, and it's in these pages that the composer reveals, for the first time, that he is HIV positive.

Irving Berlin, Cole Porter, Noël Coward, Frank Loesser and Stephen Sondheim. Little wonder why Herman's trio of mega-hits — *Hello, Dolly!*, *Mame*, and *La Cage aux Folles* — ensures his place forever in theater history. Even his flops, most notably *Dear World* and *Mack and Mabel*, have achieved cult followings and are well on their way to becoming hits in their own right. Now, after nearly 40 years in show business, Jerry Herman has decided to share his story with the world.

Aside from all the engaging anecdotes about the famous dames he's worked with — among them, Carol Channing, Angela Lansbury, Barbra Streisand, Lucille Ball — the most noteworthy thing about *Showtune* is Herman's frankness about his sexuality. Herman has never denied that he is gay, nor has he trumpeted the fact in the press, even in the wake of *La Cage aux Folles'* tremendous success. But from the first pages of this book,

word Herman uses at least three times every page — relationships with men. It seems the real love of Herman's life was Marty Finkelstein, a man 20 years his junior with whom he shared seven years in the '80s before Finkelstein succumbed to AIDS. It was Finkelstein's death that prompted Herman to get tested, and it's in these pages that the composer reveals, for the first time, that he is HIV positive.

Despite his personal revelations, Herman comes across in *Showtune* as a very private man with a huge circle of friends. He talks about Channing and Lansbury lovingly, if not gushingly, and calls his close friends his brothers and sisters. Although he has lost many of these friends to AIDS, and while it seems there is a general lack of interest today in Herman's brand of theater, the composer remains stubbornly optimistic: "I would like it if the show business that I knew and loved in the 1960s could just go

Jerry Herman will be on hand for the opening of "Tune the Grand Up," a musical revue of his music, on Friday, November 15 (8 p.m.) at The Alcazar Theatre, 650 Geary St. Show runs through December 22. For tickets and information, call 441-4042 or 1-510-762-BASS.

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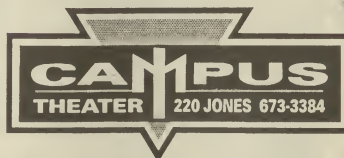
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Milk dud

Retooled 'Harvey Milk' still not ready for prime time

by Paul Thomason

When George Bernard Shaw was still working as a music critic, he once wrote: "There are some sacrifices which should not be demanded twice from any man; and one of them is listening to Brahms' *Requiem*." Sitting through the San Francisco Opera's opening performance of *Harvey Milk* last Saturday at the Orpheum Theatre was also a case of once being more than enough.

All the noble, well-meaning intentions in the world cannot disguise the fact that, even given the revisions and reorchestration it has undergone for this production, *Harvey Milk* is a woefully

bad, sometimes even offensive opera. That is a shame, because the story of Harvey Milk is ripe with theatrical potential. Yet Michael Korie's libretto generally relies on clichés and stereotypes, seldom rising above the level of "We are the Stonewall Girls! We wear our hair in curls! We have no underwear! We show our pubic hair!" And on those few occasions when the libretto tries to deal with a character's emotions honestly, as in arias for Dan White and Harvey Milk in the third act, it simply blathers, circling the emotions, rather than expressing them cogently. As a result, the audience is not seduced into actually sharing the characters' feelings, which remain more descriptive than cathartic.

One critic — I wish to heaven it had been me — said Stewart Wallace's music was not so much composed as collected. Bits and pieces of Bernstein, Puccini, Wagner, Britten, Stravinsky, Sondheim, Adams, and Andrew Lloyd Webber are scattered throughout a score of mind-numbing ineptness and tedium. The music never enhances the drama or enriches the characters in any way. Like the bunny with the drum on TV, *Harvey Milk* just goes on and on.

Harvey Milk has more than 50 named characters, Very, Williams, Wong, Saks, and most of the cast, played multiple parts.) Once again, while listening to soprano Elizabeth Bishop (Harvey Milk's mother) I longed to hear her rich voice in a role worthy of it.

The most enjoyable parts of the evening were the humorous, Beach Blanket Babylon-type impersonations of Dianne Feinstein (Juliana Gondek) and other supervisors, plus the priceless (mute) appear-

hours preparing such unrewarding material. Too bad the company did not invest such effort into reviving a good American opera like *Susannah*, *The Ballad of Baby Doe*, *The Ghosts of Versailles*, *Akhmatov*, *Vanessa*, or the revised version of *Anthony and Cleopatra*, to name only a few possibilities.

The big mystery is why the company has chosen to record *Harvey Milk* for commercial release. It's one thing to produce a co-commissioned work when it is

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"The Castro" Parade scene from the San Francisco Opera's production of *Harvey Milk*.

Time after time such inherently dramatic moments as the Stonewall Riot or the confrontations between White and Milk go for naught.

Oddly, Dan White, well-sung by tenor Raymond Very in his SF Opera debut, emerges as the most sympathetic and well-rounded character in the opera. Milk himself comes off as curiously one-dimensional and passive, though baritone Robert Orth worked hard to make Milk a real presence on stage. Tenor Bradley Williams, in his local debut as Scott Smith, Milk's lover, displayed a sweet, high tenor and an engaging stage presence. Also making their SF Opera debuts were male soprano/countertenor Randall Wong (as Henry Wong), whose third act aria was effective; and Bass Gidon Saks, who was especially good as Mayor George Moscone. (Since

ance of Dorothy from *The Wizard of Oz* (chorus member Frederick Matthews) in the Gay Parade scene. But such moments were few and far between.

The production by Christopher Alden, with sets by Paul Steinberg and costumes by Gabriel Berry (SF Opera debut), was worthy of the opera. Its one effective moment occurred in the first act, the melding of a giant pink triangle and yellow triangle to form the Star of David as Harvey Milk sings, "I'm 39 years old. I stand up for myself as a Jew. Why not as a man who loves men?"

Music Director Donald Runnicles did a yeoman's job keeping the disparate elements of the work in sync. I have the utmost admiration for the orchestra, chorus, the Adler Fellows, members of the musical staff, and everyone else in the company who had no choice but to spend hours and

bad, but to go the extra mile and record such a piece is mind-boggling. Once upon a time the San Francisco Opera was known as the company that gave the American premieres of works like Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Janacek's *Makropoulos Case*, Poulenc's *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, Shostakovich's *Katerina Ismailova*, Strauss' *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, and where singers like Nilsson, Rysanek, Del Monaco, Tebaldi, Price, Gobbi, and dozens of others made their American debuts. Now it's the company that perpetuates Wallace and Korie's *Harvey Milk*. What happened? ▼

Harvey Milk continues at the Orpheum Theatre through November 30. For tickets (\$8 - \$125) and information, call (415) 864-3330.

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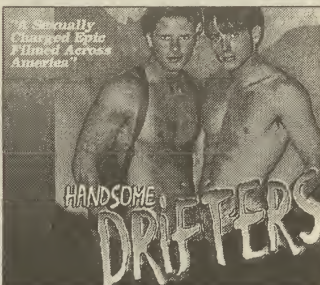
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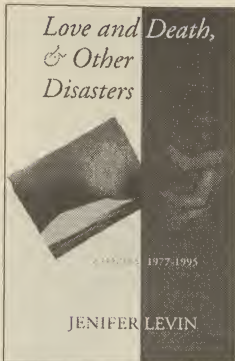
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Robert Orth and Bradley Williams as Harvey Milk and his lover Scott.

BOOKS



Same old, same old

by Deborah Peifer

Love and Death, & Other Disasters: Stories 1977-1995 by Jennifer Levin; Firebrand, \$10.95

According to her preface, Jennifer Levin could not get her short stories published by feminist presses in the late 1970s because the butch-femme "sexual style expressed in this fiction was oppressive to women." Maybe.

I'm reminded, however, of a story told about Radclyffe Hall and *The Well of Loneliness*. Hall asked members of the Bloomsbury group to testify on her behalf when English censors banned the book. Virginia Woolf and others agreed to testify that censorship was wrong and that no book should be banned by any government. The problem was that Hall wanted them to testify that *Well* was a great novel. "But won't we be under oath?" Woolf demurred.

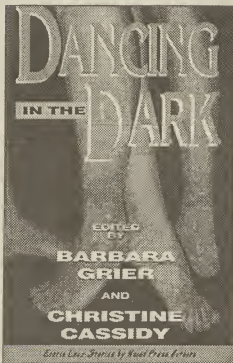
My point is that perhaps the feminist presses really objected to the numbing identicalness of Levin's stories. I'm no fan of butch-femme, but it's the sameness that certainly is my objection to this collection.

Levin writes her stories mostly in the first person, but although the narrators have different names, each speaks in an identical voice. When the plots are also basically indistinguishable from one another, that makes for a sense of being trapped in the same story over and over and over again.

If the author means for her stories to support some positive point of view for butch-femme sexuality, she does not succeed. More importantly, she fails at the

simplest level: Levin's stories do not entertain. Her language choices are so idiosyncratic (in each of five stories containing a single child, the child is referred to as "the kid" every time) that they reinforce the notion that there is really only one voice, one character, one person involved in these stories, and you know who she is.

Levin declares that she doesn't "care if a single straight person ever reads these stories. Because I wrote them for me, and for you." That comment leads me to wonder, what does Levin have against lesbians? I certainly would not wish these stories upon women I claimed to love. ▼



Steamy and sweet

by Deborah Peifer

Dancing in the Dark: Erotic Love Stories by Naiad Press authors, edited by Barbara Grier and Christine Cassidy; Naiad, \$14.95

Naiad's latest collection of short stories by its talented writers is another winner, a worthy successor to *The Erotic Naiad* and *The First Time Ever*. The anthology covers and uncovers various aspects of love and friendship, as well as Eros, in moods both steamy and sweet, with plenty of laughs thrown into the mix for good measure.

I was particularly impressed with Carol Schmidt's "Counting Marbles," a touching story of a relationship both marred and elevated by a partner's struggle with multiple sclerosis. In a few perfectly chosen words, Schmidt takes us to the heart of coping with chronic illness. As Chekhov said: "Any idiot can face a crisis; it's this day to day living that

wears you out." Schmidt writes with a compassion and depth rare in a short story.

There are more gems in this collection, especially Laura Adams' starkly erotic "Shooting Star" and Catherine Ennis' delightful "Debut." Penny Hayes captures the bone-chilling fear of asking for that first dance in "A Little Time." Dorothy Tell's "Self-Help" relates a vision quest with a more than usually satisfying result. *Dancing in the Dark* is a thoroughly enjoyable collection, one that will fill more than a few idle moments. ▼

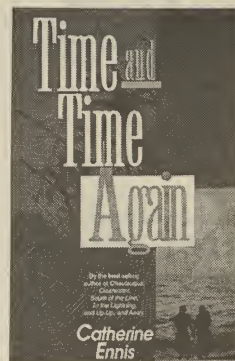
Swamp gas

by Deborah Peifer

Time and Time Again by Catherine Ennis; Naiad, \$10.95

Time and Time Again, the title of Catherine Ennis' new novel, might as easily describe the experience of reading it. Seriously short on plot and shorter on characterization, Ennis uses similar scenes to fill pages (and pages) to little effect, save to reach the minimum necessary for publication.

Millie is a painter. We know that not through any hint of artistic sensibility in the character, but because she spends a great deal of time painting swamp scenes, time and time again, to sell to tourists in New Orleans. She is involved with Ellen, a mystery woman who won't let Millie call her at home, and who appears and reappears in Millie's life,



time and time again, for a series of fights, break-ups, make-ups and make-outs. When not painting by the numbers or waiting for Ellen, Millie encounters a homeless man, whom she helps, a gay waiter with AIDS, whom she helps, and Lou, a lesbian friend, with whom she has never discussed the topic of lesbianism (this is not like any lesbians I've ever heard of), whom she helps.

Oh, yeah, and she and Lou find a bootlegger's hidden cache filled with thousands of gallons of Prohibition-era hooch and a suitcase with a mysterious note from "Helen" to a woman known only by her initials, MTL. It seems as if Ennis intended *Time and Time Again* to be a mystery novel, but the identities of MTL and Helen from Chicago are unearthed with surprisingly little effort.

We are left with Millie's whining about Ellen, and having sex with Ellen, which Millie reports as fantastic (could have fooled me), and painting those swamp scenes. The swamp might be an apt metaphor for this dreary novel. I

certainly felt more than a little bogged down while reading it. ▼

Black is back

by Deborah Peifer

Smoke and Mirrors by Pat Welch; Naiad, \$10.95

In her latest Helen Black novel, Pat Welch takes a penetrating look at the world of the religious wrong, especially those who think killing an abortionist is an act of moral integrity. A free clinic in Lafayette, California, is the setting for threats, vandalism, arson and, inevitably, murder. Black's assignment is to infiltrate a group of anti-abortion Christians who regularly demonstrate at the clinic to find out whether they are responsible for the attacks on the clinic.

Welch makes very clear that the "good" citizens of Lafayette object as much or more to the clinic's willingness to treat indigents as to any moral question about abortion. The subtle racism of seemingly moral people is handled particularly well.

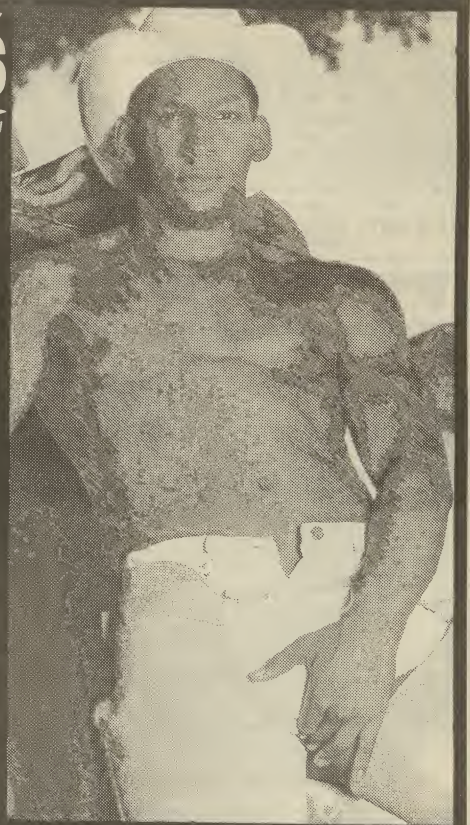
Welch creates believable characters in believable situations. The subplots concerning an abusive ex-spouse, immigrant bashing, and the joys of interacting with an ex-lover and her new partner add texture and richness to the main plot concerning the clinic. The result is an enjoyable read, with plenty of suspense and more than a smidgen of political commentary. ▼

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LEATHER SCENE

The "he said, she said" game

by Mister Marcus

It has been one of the most annoying things about writing a column: receiving not only untrue but vicious and deliberately false information. A few years ago, a non-scientific survey was made of you readers, asking if you wanted news items and coverage of leather events or did you want dish? The overwhelming response: "We want more dish!"

And so it was that certain non-libelous gossip was made a part of this column. Most of the "dish" is harmless; after all, if you or a friend do something that harms no one, why not? If you can't laugh at yourself for a minor faux pas, why bother to interact at all? We all have done something crazy or stupid and got on with our lives after enduring good-natured taunts from friends and maybe gloating from enemies as well.

But I've noticed in the past few months, that certain rumors are either deliberately manufactured or have their origins in the minds of some very sick people. Just two weeks ago, the "dish" alleged that Joe Ricci, former Mr. Northeast Drummer, had acquired the rights to the Mr. New York Leather title and had threatened the organizers and AmFAR with legal action should they use that title for the upcoming title weekend (Nov. 14-16).

Since this news came from supposedly honest and reliable leathermen, I was agghast to learn this about Mr. Ricci. My attempts to check the story out met with no response to phone call messages left with key individuals in New York's leather community. Deadlines being what they are, I went ahead and printed the story.

The truth of the matter is that Joe Ricci is one of the major players in the New York leather community. He has worked long and hard to assure the success of the NYL event. He, in fact, is *not* the culprit. I don't know who *does* own the rights to that title, but it's a classic case of "the dog in the manger." Joe Ricci is not guilty of denying AmFAR and NY's leather community the Mr. New York Leather title. My deepest and profound apologies to Joe Ricci, a man of honor and integrity — truly a leatherman who lives by the codes of our tribe.



Bazaar

As for the "Tribal" contest and dance taking place this weekend in New York, it will go on; there will be a contest with a new title name. Regardless of the name, the winner will represent the dedicated and great leather community of New York, and the contest will benefit AmFAR, which publishes a directory of AIDS/HIV services available to everyone all over the country.

Those who would denigrate Mr. Ricci should be ashamed to call themselves leathermen. Furthermore, that person or persons should be denied ever wearing the Leather Pride pin. I repeat that there is no truth in what was said about Joe Ricci, *nor* is there any truth to previous vicious rumors about IML Joe Gallagher's deportment in New Orleans during the Southern Decadence Weekend and the Mr. Louisiana Leather Contest.

And there's more! I'm beginning to wonder if this trend isn't becoming endemic in our tribe.



Doug Johnson (l) of Felton and Sharon Klienman of Milpitas pose with their new South Bay title sashes Nov. 9.

You will note that this past weekend, a leather title contest and leatherfest were held in the South Bay area. The titles bestowed were Mr. and Ms. Santa Clara County Leather *not* Mr. and Ms. San Jose Leather or Mr. and Ms. Southbay Leather. Why not?

Well, it seems various people own those titles and refuse to let them be used. Do they want money for them? Do they want to prove they can do it better? What is the motivation for this "dog in the manger" attitude? The ironic aspect of all this is that this regrettable attitude exists in a community which has had the honor of having two of their own win IML and IMLs. And everyone around the country is wearing "Better Together" and "Celebrate Diversity" pins created and distributed by Jeff Tucker and Pat Baillie. Yet sadly, those idealistic conditions don't exist at all in the place where those slogans were born.

It cannot be denied that Jeff and Pat did a great job during their respective title year. Unfortunately, their sterling performances did not rub off on their own people. Oh sure, there have been "differences" here in San Francisco, but nothing to fracture the community to the point of having to change titles because some disgruntled person didn't like the winner or the producers.

There's even a rift in Florida this year, where there will be two Mr. Florida Leather title contests — or variations on the theme. The feud between a producer in Orlando and a producer in Fort Lauderdale has leather people in that state perplexed. Nobody wants to take sides. Major title holders who have been invited to participate either as judges or to fulfill other functions are dubious about volunteering.

As a longtime observer and participant in leather affairs, I find



Mr. Drummer Europe winners chosen in Amsterdam Nov. 1 (l to r): second runner-up, Stephan Viviers of Amsterdam; winner, Fabrice van den Bossche of Paris; and first runner-up, just plain "Luke" of Antwerp, Belgium.

LEATHER SCENE

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Weekend, Nov. 15-17

In the Big Apple they're choosing a leather title equivalent to Mr. New York Leather at TRIBAL on Saturday night, Nov. 16, at Twilo (530 West 27th St.) in conjunction with GMSMA's Leatherfest Weekend "Carnival of Darkness." If you're in the vicinity, tix are available by calling (800) 494-8497 or e-mail: jamrman@aol.com.

SoMa Bare Chest Calendar guys (well, at least eight of them) travel to the San Diego Eagle for a calendar benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund and San Diego AIDS charities hosted by 1997 coverman and Mr. September Mike Wieland. They're going to Gay Night at Disneyland on Friday night before the Saturday event. Drop in if you're in the neighborhood!

On Saturday and Sunday, the long-awaited Auto Erotica (4077-A 18th St. upstairs) opens, home of the Dildo Mines (love that name!). Raffle tickets given out 1100-2300 on Saturday and 1200-2000 Sunday to win a signed lithograph of a classic Robert Uyviri drawing. His work is also on display. Check it out!

Friday, Nov. 15

Free HIV testing upstairs at 933 Harrison (Blow Buddies) for everyone from 2200 to half-past midnight.

Hooters & Heaters beer bust at Turf Club in Hayward (\$5 in costume/\$7 otherwise). Dress as your fave Rocky Horror Picture Show icon. A benefit, of course!

Saturday, Nov. 16

Bears of SF beer bust, Lone Star Saloon, 1500-1900, only \$6, a benefit for Project Open Hand Food Bank. Bring non-perishable goods for free raffle tix.

Lou Duff's Hands on Rope 101 Basic Bondage, includes safety techniques, knots, how to make a

rope harness, etc. Call 550-0122 for time, place and cost.

Wednesday, Nov. 20

Leathermen's Discussion Group offers Peter Fiske of The 15 Association to expound on various areas of leather/SM. Call 647-6817 for time and location.

The Edge Bar Turkey Night party from 1900 to closing. Bring canned food for Glide Memorial Thanksgiving dinner. Customers who act most like a turkey can win one! Canned goods get you half-price drinks all night!

Thursday, Nov. 21

Constantines MC \$6 beer bust at Daddy's, 2000-2300, to benefit Rita Rockett's Sunday brunches at SFGH.

Friday, Nov. 22

Golden Gate Guards MC celebrates its 10th anniversary (will there be new uniforms this year?) at the SF-Eagle, 1900-2200, by invite or club overlay. They've come a long way since the early days. Congratulations!

Pre-Turkey Day beer bust at Daddy's, \$6, 1500-1800, to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund. Raffle tickets with cash prize and other goodies.

Tuesday, Nov. 26

Annual Turkey Shoot at the SF-Eagle. Get a raffle ticket for each drink you buy and maybe win a whole turkey every half hour from 2100 to closing. Do it!

Wednesday, Nov. 27

Leather Buddies at 933 Harrison. Doors open 2100-2300 and party until...? You know the rules! Wear boots and leather. You'll be turned away if you're wearing cologne or white sneakers! P.S.: Memo to Lenny Broberg - Dried fruit?

it disheartening that all this is taking place. Dealing diplomatically with all these factions is equivalent to walking a tight rope over a boiling vat of oil. But there is hope. To all those who would perpetuate this state of affairs, get a life! Get on board or get out of the leather community. The hard work of your forebears was not done only for you to tear down and belittle it. As far as I'm concerned, a lot of leather people in the title game arena are doing exactly what Barbra Streisand's big hit, *People*, says: "...acting more like children than children."

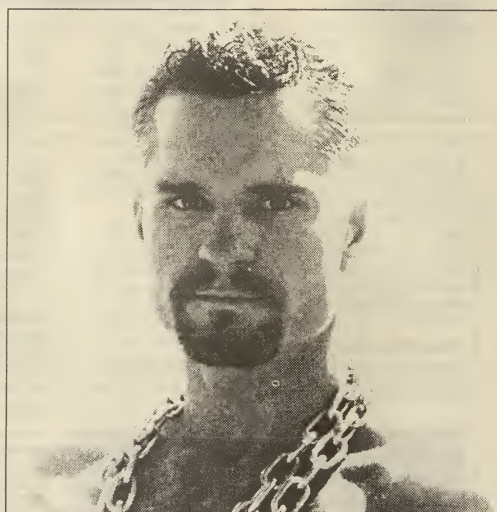
Area shenanigans

Kevin Roche and Miranda von Stockhausen relinquished their Southbay leather titles Nov. 9 at Campbell's Lamplighter Theatre, a great venue that showcased the fine emcee efforts of Shan Carr and Lenny Broberg.

Three men and one woman vied for the new Mr. and Ms. Santa Clara County Leather titles. Judges Jeff Tucker, Pat Baile, Cindy Bookout, Diana Hardick, Alan Selby, Daniel Sonnenfeld and Intl. Mr. Fantasy Kevin Watson put contestants James Clark, Dan Herrera, Sharon Klienman and Doug Johnson through their paces during the judging segments.

The show was only 15 minutes late starting and ended at almost 2300 in a tight, well-paced presentation that included a superb fantasy (thanks to a giant teddy bear) by Kevin Watson. Dowager Sash Widow Steve Crane was the tally master, and when the moment of truth arrived, the bearded Doug Johnson of Felton was named Mr. Santa Clara County Leather, and Sharon Klienman of Milpitas was Ms. Santa Clara County Leather.

And a big thank you to Kevin and Miranda, who imbued their title year with honor and integrity. Kevin went to Chicago once more and again reached the semifinals, impressing yet another set of judges. The ever-charming, lovable Miranda proved to be an excellent crowd-pleaser, whether she



'97 SoMa Bare Chest Calendar coverman Mike Wieland will host a calendar party and signing at the San Diego Eagle Nov. 16 to benefit the AEF and San Diego AIDS charities.

was emceeing, judging or performing a fantasy. Now Miranda can settle in with "Mudpie" for a less hectic life. The leather community in the Southbay should be very proud of Kevin and Miranda.

I was shocked last Saturday night when the leather community "roasted" me onstage at the Eagle (benefiting Paradigm) and Hydie Downard presented me with a mayoral proclamation designating the entire month of November as "Mr. Marcus Month"! The dynamic Lurch emceed the first half of the ordeal; former IMs.L Blair and Queen Cougar did the second-half honors. Faxes and e-mail were read aloud, and various leather and non-leather personalities paid \$10 a minute to read my beads. There were a few embarrassing (!) moments, I'll tell you! It was fun, but I'm glad roasts only happen every 10 years!

As for the longest-running columnist in the B.A.R., Sweet Lips, I hope she will one day be

recognized as such. However, my alleged "touting" my 25 years in print is no different than the Lips shamelessly touting every plank she has ever walked - or crawled - on!

All good comments about the Cal Eagles MC weekend run to the RushRiv Resort in Guerneville on Saturday and Sunday - raves about the food and the flawless weather. On Sunday, SMMILE dispensed some \$95,000 to the beneficiaries of the Dore Alley Fair and the Folsom Street Fair. Mr. SF Leather Gary Virginia and Ms. Golden Gate Leather Beth hosted the event, with SMMILE Prez Paul Lester and Treasurer Chuck Roth doling out the dough. The only downer this weekend was the 49ers' heart-breaking loss to the Dallas Cowboys. The 49er faithful were out in force to watch the game on the giant screen at the Lone Star Saloon, but victory eluded us. Hey, the season is *not* over yet! ▼



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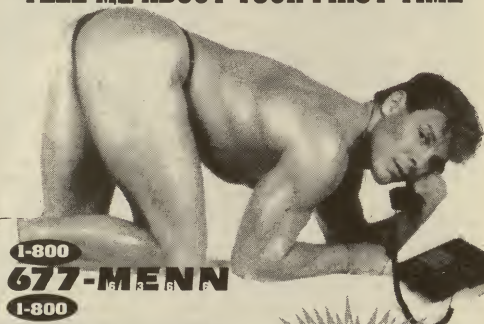
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OUT & ABOUT

Gay dating game "Bottoms Up!" Thursday nights at the Stud. See listing.

Calendare

by Roberto Friedman

Fr



Buggery

At first, the idea of an entire feature film consisting of close-ups of insects scurrying about their daily lives just made me want to itch profusely. My favorite place to see a bug is squished, on the bottom of my shoe. But *Microcosmos*, a beautifully shot documentary by Claude Nurid-sany and Marie Perennou, takes its audience right up into the faces, multiple sets of legs, mouthparts and antennae of a field's worth of bugs. Microscopically observed, they turn out to be exotic and fascinating monsters.

The list of performers includes 'new-born caterpillar of the Jason butterfly,' 'great peacock moth,' and 'processionary caterpillars.' In a cast of thousands of manic worker ants, gelatinous slugs and amorous pollen-craved bees, a few players stand out. Two burgundy snails who bump into each other and have a quickie sexual encounter positively steam up the screen. A sacred beetle finds that its precious ball of dung gets stuck on a twig and tries just about everything to get it unstuck, finally prevailing to cheers of filmgoers.

There's not only sex, but violence aplenty in this Lilliputian realm. Two rhinoceros beetles butt antlers in a macho stand-off. An argiope spider catches a poor grasshopper in its web, then proceeds to mummify it as swiftly and deftly as the meanest s&m daddy. An argyronet spider takes its prey underwater, preparing a private air bubble for some privacy during its dining pleasure. And a diabolical drosera carnivorous plant clamps shut on a hapless fly about to become brunch.

No annoying voice-over narration, no cutesy anthropomorphizing, just bugs, bugs, bugs, doing the things bugs gotta do! You may want to tell those goddamn workaholic ants to take a break, chill out. But otherwise the creepy crawly things will win you over, as they did me. Now where's my can of Raid? ▼

"Microcosmos" plays the Lumiere Theatre. Call for times.

Angel Dive

New work by Scott Wells and Dancers. Fri. & Sat. at 8:30pm thru 11/30. \$10-15. ODC Performance Gallery Theater, 3153 17th St. 863-9834.

Colossal Noodle Reading

Noodle dinner, reading by Trebor, Roberto Friedman, Miriam Kronberg, Camille Roy, Gary Glazner, Garret Jon Groenewald. \$6-7. 7:45pm. Build, 483 Guerrero. 863-3041.

Death & Rapture

Ensemble and individual performances exploring acts of passion. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm thru 11/16. \$8-12. Luna Sea, 2940 16th St. #216C. 863-2989.

FTM

David Harrison's performance, transsexual journey from female to male. Thurs.-Sun. at 8:30pm (7:30pm on Sun.) thru 11/24. \$12-15. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Girlfriend

Deke Weaver's new solo stage and video performance; character vignettes, lo-fi spectacle. Thru 11/17 at 8pm. \$8. g2 Arts Center, 1695 18th St. 646-0447.

Gloria in Excelsis

DC Scarpelli's tragic farce set in gingerbread housing developments of Ohio. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm thru 11/23. \$7. EXIT Theatre, 156 Eddy. 673-3847.

Hello... (transition)

Stormie M. Graham's performance piece, a one-human show. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Jerry Herman

Broadway composer performs and signs memoir, "Show-tune," free. 1pm. Barnes & Noble, 2550 Taylor. 292-6762.

John Berendt

Reading from "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil," free. 12:30pm. Rizzoli Bookstore, 117 Post. 984-0225.

Karen Black

"A View of the Heart," evening of cabaret and spoken word. Wed.-Sun. thru 11/24, call for times. \$18-25. Tonight at 8&10pm. Plush Room, 940 Sutter. 885-2800.

MACT Video Night

"The Joy Luck Club" Free to members, \$2 nonmembers. 7pm. 95 Duboce. 675-0201.

The Natives Are Restless

"Ku Kanaka," the Hawaiian hula group Na Lei I Ka Wekiuri's annual show. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm. \$15-18. Cowell Theater, Fort Mason. 248-1984.

O Vertigo Danse

Ginette Laurin's dance company performs "Déluce," inspired by myths ending in water. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm. \$18-24. Center for the Arts Theater, 700 Howard. 392-4400.

Pieces of the Quilt

Short plays about AIDS by a host of playwrights, conceived

by Sean San José Blackman as a mem'l to his parents. Thru 11/17, call for times. \$15-21. Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-8822.

Relative Values

Chamber Theatre's production of Noel Coward's comedy runs Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 3pm thru 11/24. \$18. Phoenix Theatre, 301 8th St. 346-3107.

Roberta

42nd St. Moon's Lost Musical Series presents Jerome Kern's 1933 musical in concert. Thru 11/17, call for times. Tonight at 8pm. \$18. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

The Secret Garden

Oakland Ballet presents a story in dance adapted from the children's classic, with Oakland East Bay Symphony. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sat. & Sun. at 2pm. \$6-36. Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley. (510) 762-2277.

Virgil Thomson & Friends

Centennial celebration, music by Thomson, Ned Rorem, Roger Nixon. Free. Noon. Star Classics Recital Hall, 425 Hayes. 552-1110.

Sat 16

Beer Bust

Benefits Home Care Aide Fund of Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. \$6. 3-6pm. Daddy's, 440 Castro.

Brides of the Moon

The Five Lesbian Brothers play an all-woman space crew on a top-secret mission to the moon. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 12/15. Call for times of matinee/twilight shows. \$12-25. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Cabaret Hollywood

Post-election revue, showcasing luminaries of Tinseltown, with a visit from Hillary and

Queer Taoists give lecture on "The Tao of Addiction & Recovery" at New College Theater. See Saturday.



Bill. \$5. 10pm. Kimo's Lounge, 1351 Polk.

CinemaGael

Weekend festival of Irish film. Today: screenings of new films including "Korea," and "Draocht," written by and featuring Gabriel Byrne. Noon-11pm, call for times. Roxie Cinema, 3125 16th St. 863-1087.

Close Calls

Editor Susan Fox Rogers and contributors read from new lesbian anthology, free. 7:30pm. Boadecia's Books, 398 Colusa, Kensington. (510) 559-9184.

Gay Comedy Night

Jean Culver, Derrick Richard-

son, Matthew Martin. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Harvey Milk

San Francisco Opera presents new opera about legendary gay rights leader. Thru 11/30, call for dates and times. Tonight at 8pm. \$8-125. Orpheum Theatre, 1192 Market. 864-3330.

Keoki

Superstar DJ spins. \$10. 9:30pm-7am. Club Universe, 177 Townsend. 985-5241.

Lesbigan Radio

Queer music & comedy: pundits, politicians & pioneers. Sat. nights at Midnight. 1450 AM. 1-800-GAY-6550.

Like A Mother Bear

A Traveling Jewish Theatre presents Helen Stoltzfus in a solo performance. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 11/17. \$12-15. ATJT, 2800 Mariposa. 399-1809.

Queer Taoists

Group of gays studying the ancient Chinese philosophy gives lecture on "The Tao of Addiction & Recovery," free. 2:30pm. New College Theater, 777 Valencia.

This Side of Butch

Bay Area Career Women comedy night features Amy Boyd, Karla Carmony, Karen Hirst, Margery Kreitman. \$12. 8:30pm. Jelly's, Pier 50, 295 China Basin Way. 495-5393.

The Two-Bit Tango

Dyke detective comedy based on Elizabeth Pincus' novel, adapted by Mercilee Jenkins and Sara Felder. Wed.-Sun. \$12. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Sun 17

Allan Blasdale

Organist in concert: Wagner, Handel, Bach. Free. 3:30pm. St. Mary's Cathedral, Geary

at Gough.

Antiques and Collectibles

300 dealers selling all types of collectibles, indoor flea market. \$2. 10am-5pm. Pier 29, Sansome at Embarcadero. (510) 254-8931.

Mazacote

Salsa garden party. \$5. 4-8pm. El Rio, 3158 Mission. 282-3325.

Sins and Seduction

Signs for the Future and Latin American Theatre Artists present Tim Roche's adult comedy, fundraiser for Shanti. Sundays at 7pm thru 12/15. Pay what you can. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

Steve Dell

Photographs of male nudes, thru Nov. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Vincent Fronczek

Exhibit of erotic photography, reception today, 2pm. Thru 1/4. Stormy Leather, 1158 Howard. 626-1672.

Mon 18

Gay Comedy Open Mike

Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone, MC Maureen Brownsey. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Jackie Wey

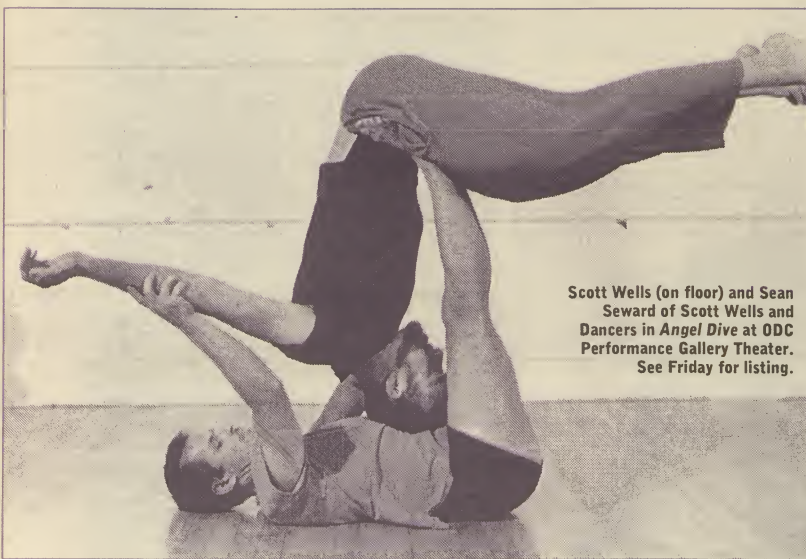
Photography exhibit, thru Nov. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

Not Like Other Boys

Marlene Shyer & Christopher, mother & son, read from book on homosexuality in the family, free. 8pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

SFAI:

"Fifty Years of Photography" retrospective of works by faculty and alumni, incl. Ansel



Scott Wells (on floor) and Sean Seward of Scott Wells and Dancers in *Angel Dive* at ODC Performance Gallery Theater. See Friday for listing.

Adams, Imogen Cunningham, Annie Leibovitz. Mon.-Fri. thru 11/22. Transamerica Pyramid Lobby, 600 Montgomery.

Tues

Art Hell
Ceremonial and ritual objects, thru 11/22. ARTwork Gallery, 1837 Divisadero. 673-3080.

Commonplace Mysteries
"Photographs by Peter Hujar, Andrea Modica, and Bill Owens" exhibit. Thru 2/2. SF-MOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Don Bachardy
Portraits in oil, watercolor and acrylics. Tues.-Sat. thru 12/15. Mulligan-Shanoski, 747 Post. 771-0663.

Lighting the Way
"For the Future," Shanti Leadership Awards Dinner, recognizes Bay Area leaders in the fight against AIDS. \$150. 5:30pm. Hyatt, Embarcadero. 864-2273.

Living with AIDS
Drawings and etchings of PWAs by Frances Binnington. Tues.-Sat. thru 11/30. Project Open Hand, 1166 Howard. 252-1931.

QTV
Gay and lesbian programming. Highlights from Halloween '96. 7pm. Cable Channel 47. 956-1284.

Refiguring Nature
"Women in the Landscape" photography exhibition includes Linda Connor, Nina Glaser, Ana Mendieta. Tues.-Sat. thru 11/23. SF Camera-work, 115 Natoma.

764-1001.

Silent Art Auction
"For AIDS Advocacy" Works by over 60 artists, benefits ACT UP/East Bay. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/1. Berkeley Store Gallery, 2295 Shattuck, Berkeley. (510) 568-1680.

Splendors of Imperial China
Survey of treasures from the National Palace Museum, Taipei. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/8. \$9.50. Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. 379-8801.

Women with Balls
The only women-ruled stand-up comedy room in SF. Tues. at 8pm. \$5. Cat's Grill, 1190 Folsom. 431-3332.

Wed

Beach Blanket Babylon
Musical revue's holiday extravaganza shows begin, call for holiday schedule. \$18-45. Club Fugazi, 678 Green. 421-4222.

Beat Culture
"And the New America: 1950-1965," exhibition of painting, sculpture, film, installations, music and spoken word. Thru 12/29. deYoung Museum, Golden Gate Park. 863-3330.

How to Succeed...
"In Business Without Really Trying," Broadway musical starring Ralph Macchio. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/8, call for times. \$34-62.50. Tonight at 8pm. Golden Gate Theater, 1 Taylor. 776-1999.

Party
David Dillon's comedy: seven gay friends play "Facts and

Fantasies." Wed.-Sun. extended thru 12/1, call for times. \$20-25. Tonight at 8pm. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-8497.

Picasso at the Lapin Agile
Steve Martin's comedy featuring the NY cast. Tues.-Sun., extended thru 1/5. Tonight at 8pm, call for times. \$25-38. Theatre on the Square, 450 Post. 433-9500.

Project Inform Town Mtg.
Recent advances in care for HIV, update on immune-based therapies, free. 6:30pm. UCSF Laurel Heights Conf. Ctr., 3333 California. 558-8669.

The Rose Tattoo
ACT presents Tennessee Williams' comedy of love and redemption on the Gulf Coast. Tues.-Sun. thru 11/24, call for times. Tonight at 8pm. \$19-47.50. Geary Theater, 415 Geary. 749-2228.

Thur

Bodies of Venus
Paintings by John Paul Turner, Zen sculptures by Jon Hammond. Thurs.-Sat. thru 11/23. Naked Art Gallery, 355 Bryant, Loft 110. 284-0567.

Bottoms Up!
Live gay dating game, Thurs. thru Nov. \$2. 11:11-11:30pm. Stud, 9th & Harrison.

Ellen Lewin
Editor and essay contributors to "Inventing Lesbian Cultures in America" read, free. 7:30pm. Modern Times, 888 Valencia. 282-9246.

Exile of the Gods:
"A Garden Tour of the Ages," a photographic exhibition by Jean Guerre. Thru 11/25. Alliance Française de San Francisco, 1345 Bush. 775-7755.

Fliq
Q Action, the young men's program of Stop AIDS Proj., hosts screening for young gay and bi men, free. 7pm. ATA Gallery, 992 Valencia. 824-3890.

Katharina Fritsch
Survey of works by German sculptor. Thru 3/9. SFMO-MA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Mary Beth Caschetta
Author of "Lucy on the West Coast and Other Lesbian Short Fiction" reads, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

MetaPorn
Tom Bacchus' visual orgy of Photoshop erotica and appropriated imagery, on exhibit thru 12/2. Reception tonight, 7pm. Lone Star Saloon, 1354 Harrison. 863-9999.

Snopea
Chamber orchestra performs New Wave, Pop, and Punk classics. \$5. 9pm. Stud, 9th & Harrison.

Trick
Genderfuck cabaret, every Thurs. 9pm-2am. \$5. CoCo Club, 139 8th St. 331-9595 x300.

Two Beats
Exhibition of photographs by Allen Ginsberg, paintings and drawings by Robert LaVigne. Tues.-Sat. thru 11/30. Robert Koch Gallery, 49 Geary. 421-0122.

Vanities
All-new gay version of Jack Heifner's comedy: lives of three Texan football players. Wed.-Sat. thru 12/21, call for times. \$16-20. Tonight at 8pm. New Conservatory Theater, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

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Deadline is the Friday before issue date.

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- Grilled Pork Chops with pineapple sweet & sour sauce, with chef's rice or mashed potatoes.....9.50
- All-American Meatloaf with mashed potatoes and gravy.....6.95
- Spaghetti-Chicken Carbonara with garlic, bacon, chicken tenders and creamy parmesan sauce.....8.95

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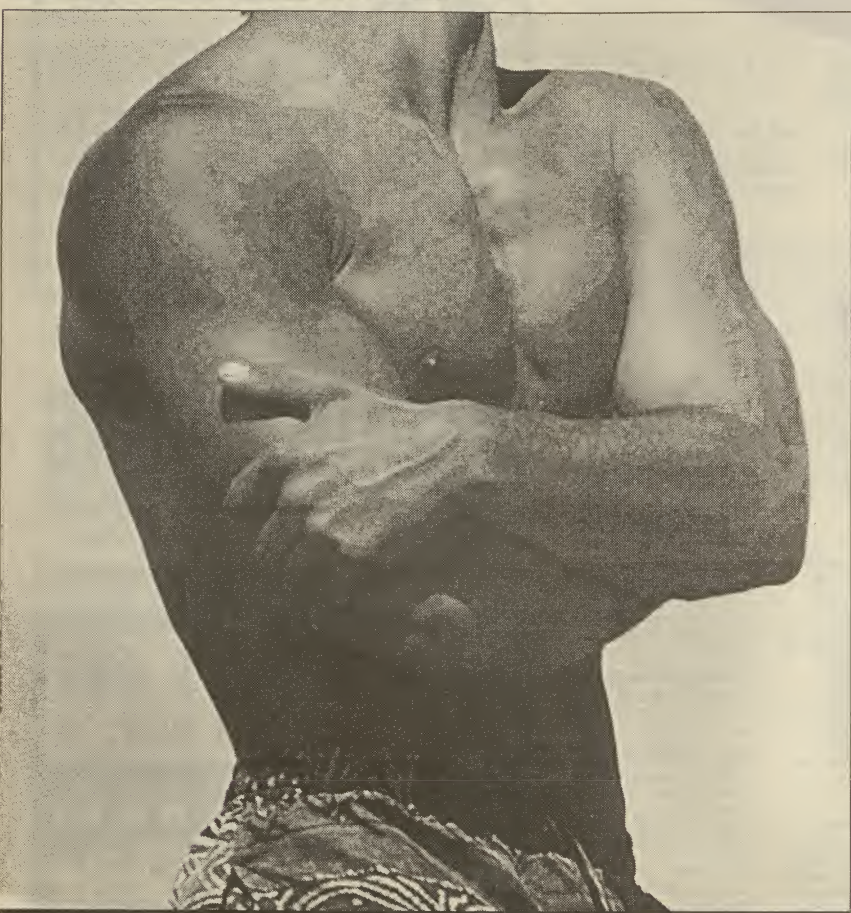
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Andrew Scott as Eamon Doyle in *Korea*, one of the films to be screened on Saturday as part of "Irish Day at the Roxie Cinema" See listing.



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PARTING GLANCES

Peter, Safeway Checker
I bought groceries, Sun 10/20, you complained about always working graveyard. Me: 6'1", br hair, leather jacket, goatee. Would love to see you. ☎ 3401.

Crafts Fair 10/13 Guerneville
You were the hot number in shops helping to take down booth, you walked by twice & we said hi. Wish you would stop by. ☎ 3402.

Safeway's on Market St. 10/17 4:00 PM. You: light complexion black male w/nice smile. Me: light complexion black male. Exchanged glances (produce)? Want to meet? ☎ 3403.

Welcome Home Restaurant 9/29 it was 10:30AM. You were in full leathers, sitting against the wall, alone. I was the person with high & tight haircut, in leathers. In the front. Please call. ☎ 3404.

Robert-We met at Grunberg Haus October 10, 111. Time was very short, I meant it: "Hope to see you again." Robert, you left me breathless! Let's explore? Jon-LA/Pas (?) Remember? ☎ 3405.

On the Beach Wed 10/14 2PM
You: dark hair, shades, red baseball cap. Me: silver hair, shades. I kick myself, I was too dumb to offer you a hand. Give me another chance. ☎ 3406.

Castro Yogurt Oct 17
You: dk hair, Warner Bros. ball cap, jeans, w/3 year old son/nephew? Me: it's my hair, reading BAR, tan shorts, dk bl shirt. Buy anything at Cliff's? Would like to meet. ☎ 3407.

Afternoon/Streetlight Bookstore
You: WM, brown hair, blue eyes, in blue T-shirt, blk jeans. Me: Asian, w/lt T-shirt, blue jeans. It was Thursday 10/17, 1:30 PM. We looked at each other-too shy to talk...Call me. ☎ 3408.

Sparky's Oct 19/20 3AM Outside
You were tall, dark, in leather coat w/friend in leather coat. I got out of Range Rover dressed in black w/Asian friend. Call me. ☎ 3409.

Castro Sat Oct 19
You: very attractive wearing a green jacket, w/friend. Me: black hair, goatee. We exchanged Hello's in a shop, I was too embarrassed by my two friends to approach. Call me. ☎ 3410.

Joe - Dan, Barry from San Diego
Met at Badlands on 10/10. Had a great time. Missed our next meeting. Call me for more massage & great times! ☎ 3411.

Jim From Diamond Heights
You were the hot number in shops helping to take down booth, you walked by twice & we said hi. Wish you would stop by. ☎ 3402.

Vertigo 10/24 7PM Show
You: crew cut/goatee. Me: beard/black shirt/bear cap. We smiled at each other several times in line & then exchanged notes after show. Let's meet. Call me. ☎ 3502.

White Del Sol on Market and Sanchez 10/243 @ 9:20PM. You on your friends lap. Me in brown leather jacket walking up Market, w/friend. Wish I would have stopped. Call me. ☎ 3503.

24 Muni: Fri 10/25 3:45
Me: blue eyes, mustache, jacket, cap, backpack. You: goatee, dark eyes, standing near rear exit. After long stares & half-smiles, I got off at 22nd. Care to meet? ☎ 3504.

Bed And Bath
You: blond man w/goatee, black leather jacket, blue eyes, made me melt. Would like to meet you ASAP? Me: man wire-on head hat goatee w/deers of us. ☎ 3505.

Oct 26 Image Lthr/Bus Stop
Watched each other. You crossed Market to Image Leather w/boys. You: tall, mustache, blue T-shirt. Me: tall, glasses, short beard hair, jeans, nylon bomber jacket, at bus stop. ☎ 3506.

Badlands-Sat. Nite 10/26
You: tall, mustache, originally from Pakistan, most recently from Connecticut. Me: short, buzz hair, mustache. You smiled—we talked. Please call me. ☎ 3507.

Vertigo Sun 10/27 1PM Show
You: glasses, polo shirt & khakis. Me: Latino, gray sweatshirt & shorts. Wanted to stay & introduce myself, but had to leave. Maybe we can meet again? ☎ 3508.

Blue Ski Jacket Castro Sat 11/12
Blond guy w/friend. Paths kept crossing. Tried to talk to you in Headlines. You seemed shy. Me: blond, shorts, maroon jacket. Let's get together for a beer? ☎ 3601.

Sunday 11/13 N Judah
You in United blue jump suit. Me in red plaid jacket. We kept looking but I had to get off at Noe. Wish I had said hello. Would like to meet. ☎ 3602.

Hot N Hunky Nov 1 7:30 PM
You: blue striped dress shirt, dark hair. Me: blue shirt, blue eyes. I was alone w/burger you w/friend & to go bag. Hope to meet you. ☎ 3603.

Jeff at Laundromat on 18th St.
You were doing your laundry Tues 10/29. You came & went a couple of times. Me: blue coat, green cap. Asked if you needed help. Like to meet you. Call. ☎ 3604.

Buena Vista Sat 10/26 5PM
You: brown hair, blue sweat pants, white T-shirt, gold chain. We played in the park. Would like to see you again. Please call. ☎ 3605.

Jim of Guerneville
Met you at Windmills Fri 11/1 at dusk. Seems we both had a good time. I'm freer than I indicated. Please call. Let's talk. S 3606.

Montgomery Station Fri 11/1 4PM, racing down the stairs, you were ramping up. Mom's right, we shouldn't rush! You: light brown hair, blue shirt. Me: dark hair, glasses, goatee. Why not meet? ☎ 3607.

John @ Eagle 10/27
You were in my fantasies, hope I was in yours? Want to be active participant next time. Can I get you naked? Loved your hair cut & more. Scott. ☎ 3608.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Drummer Daddy
Are you man enough to take rough treatment like BD, TT, CBT, & whipping by a 6', 170#, Daddy/Master, 50's. Then you earn my respect, possible affection. Limits discussed & program to expand them. ☎ 3412.

Palo Alto I Need a Man!
Hello, my name is Butch. I'm 31, 180#, 6'2", b/m/b, & shy. If you live in Palo Alto to San Jose area. Daddy Top, hairy & 50, & hot. Call me. ☎ 3413.

HIV+ Good Physical Condition
5'10", 175#, decent body, ave looks, fitness conscious, many interests. Attracted to lean or thin, well define body, whether muscular or not. 50, in good physical shape OK. 20 out of shape keep walking. Race unimportant. Me: GBM. ☎ 3414.

Opposites Attract? They Say!
GWM, exes, 48, HIV+, facial hair, cut, oral, smoker, grounded, heartfelt seeking out, GWM, 38-52, w/facial hair, non biz exec. Ex: Bricklayer, Firefighter, waiter, for LTR. ☎ 3415.

Are You a Real Man?
32yo, gdlng GWM. Romantic, responsible, employed, relationship minded, sexually expressive, versatile, HIV+, Desires LTR w/right man. Get back what you put into our relationship. You be 29-35, White/Latin OK. ☎ 3416.

Tired of the Games? Me Too!
Healthy, attractive, HIV+, 37, b/bl, 170#, well built. Looking for other 30-40, for fun, friendship & possibly more. You be healthy, top to vers. w/positive attitude. Enjoy quiet times to occasional dance party. ☎ 3417.

Special for Straight, Married.
Older gentleman is fit & erotic. Ready for your activity, your way. Safe, secure. Sunset. ☎ 3418.

GBM Sks SF Lover 2 move 2 in 97
Seattle GBM, 37, 6', 240#, top, sincere, seeks a bottom, NS, HIV-GM to relocate in 97. Let's meet in Seattle or SF & get to know each other. ☎ 3419.

Sweet/Handsome/Funny/HIV+
I'm 5'10", 180#, b/bl/bn, top, fuzzy butt, GWM, 36 yo, seeks HIV+ for great relationship. I love dinners, movies, cuddling, oral sex, day trips, quite nights, 49er games. ☎ 3420.

Wanted: Geeky Boyfriend
Me: GWM, 26, 5'8", 30" waist, stocky, br/bl, clean-cut, honest, old-fashioned, smart, funny, grad student. Looking for similar smart, white guy, 21-30, for romance. The geekier, the better. ☎ 3421.

Old Faithful Cocksucking Svc.
Big loads, beat big dicks you'll agree! Feel for yourself! What all you've been missing is a summon & swallow your spurting cream, regularly as your "full mouthful" production warrants! ☎ 3422.

HIV+ Tattooed Pierced Lking 47
31yo, good shape, 5'11", 190#, goatee, into alt lifestyle, art, music, body art. I'm Filipino/German, handsome, artistic, fun intimate love to cuddle. Versatile mostly top. Looking for a guy w/same likes & interests, 20-40, open & masculine & handsome. ☎ 3423.

Desire: Oral JO LTR
GWM, 40, 172#, 5'10", muscular, handsome, desires oral & JO LTR. Not into anal. Love titplay & kissing. Romantic, very sincere. Into dating & if chemistry is right, LTR. ☎ 3424.

Honest Hot Handsome HIV+
GWM, 38, 6'2", 185#, aggressive & masculine w/dark hair, mustache, very handsome who enjoys gym, football, baseball, dinners, quiet times. You GWM, preferably top, masculine, enjoys life man to man. ☎ 3425.

Unlock the Mystery I'm Your Man
Excitement, passion, & affection. GM seeks GM for dating. I'm 37, 6', 180#, slim build, nice features, blk hair, goatee & dark eyes. Enjoy music, hot springs. Get ready! ☎ 3426.

Athletic Asian
49, 5'9", 150#, seeks smooth, clean-shaven, gym-toned w/into hiking, workouts, sports, dancing, arts, & travel for urban & wilderness adventures. ☎ 3427.

Attractive Latino 25
I'm 5'7", 165#, dark hair, brown eyes, olive complexion. Seeking Latins or Caucasians, 21-34, for friendship maybe LTR. ☎ 3428.

Where do You Start?
I thought I found my LTR thru these pages. I met a lot of great & caring people but not "the one." Three times the charm? Me: GBM, 36, 6'1", 165#, ND/NS. You GM, 30-40's, mature & ready 4 LTR. ☎ 3429.

I am Asian Bottom
Seeking Top GWM, age 35-50 & warm, sincere, honest person. I am 35 yr, 5'6", 130#. ☎ 3430.

What You See is What You Get
I'm Looking for a GWM, GBM, HIV-, 30-40, for friendship, relationship. I have a lot of open minded, S/D OK. SF only please. ☎ 3431.

Wanted: Hungry Subm. Bottom
For lasting relationship by hot man 58, 5'8", 130#, good build. I'm aggressive, very verbal & caring. Call if you have a need to please & serve. Thank you! ☎ 3432.

Europe Anyone?
Travel & possibly live in Europe w/attractive, masculine, caring professional. You are younger, trim, & honest w/man interest in art & languages. ☎ 3474.

Seeking Middle Eastern Ways
Caucasian guy, 5'10", 30, grew up in Britain, seeks masculine, friendly Arab man for friendship. Want him to show the ways of the Middle East, & make new Arab friends (shabbu), to understand Islam better. ☎ 3475.

Redhead for Dating/LTR
Hunky, passionate, educated GWM (red/bl, 5'8", 143#, late 40's, seeks GM, any race, 30-45, for dating/LTR. Us: HIV-, trim/in shape, versatile, urban interests, NS/ND. ☎ 3476.

Clean Sober Still Wild & Fun
GLM, 32, 5'10", 160#, HIV+, handsome, sexy, hung, tattooed, pierced, stretched lobes. Vers/active FF, toys, bondage & more. Seeking LTR w/like minded individual or duo into exploration, intimacy +, NS/ND, no exceptions. Extra points for redheads, recovery, creativity. ☎ 3509.

East Bay/North Bay Boyfriend
Hot, GWM, 43, 6', 170#, gdlng, in-shape, top, prof. Enjoys travel, romantic sunsets, workouts together, toys, movies, tender cuddling ISO LTR w/in-shape bottom, 34-45, Asians A+, HIV+ OK. ☎ 3510.

HIV+ Latinish Top Wanted
I like'm short, dark & thick. WM, HIV+, 34, blue, brown, 6', 180#, in Pittsburgh needs boyfriend. LTR w/Capricorn or Virgo. ☎ 3511.

Handsome Muscular Italian
G38, 6'2", 185#, into fitness, travel, romance & quiet times, seeks another HIV-, extremely well hung man for monogamous relationship. ☎ 3512.

Is It Still Good To You?
Prof. GBM to 40's needs GWM bottom, 50 or above who has a tit for sex, fun time & poss LTR. Lt drink. A+. ☎ 3513.

Handsome Asian Skin Passionate
I'm good shaven, well built, top, seeks 27, 5'7", 135#, seeks attractive white male, gdlng, for romance. Between 27-35. Tell me your fantasies. ☎ 3514.

"B" Boy?
I been looking for that ass since a 1/4 past. Me: 22, blk, fun. You sincere, masculine, lovable. ☎ 3515.

A Lot of Sexual Energy
Very attractive Spanish/Italian, 42, 5'7", 140#, Brn/Brn, mustache, well proportioned w/nice butt, affectionate, sincere, fun & attracted to long legs. If you're 28-45, 5'10" or taller, call. ☎ 3516.

Need Help With English?
Slender, mature, experienced & patient teacher will help younger student needing English tutoring, speaking or writing-in exchange for friendship, maybe more. Other interests: massage, motorcycles, classical music, ballet, etc. ☎ 3517.

South Bay Cub
GWM, 38, brn/gm, 195#, attractive, dangerously intelligent, seeks LTR for hugs, joy, & all life can give. You: sharp, masculine, intelligent, loving, kind, attractive, 30's. Love of mod rock A+. ☎ 3518.

Do Opposites Attract?
HM, 26, HIV+, versatile bottom, 5'5", 170#, seeks W/HM, 26-36, versatile top for LTR. Me: kinkos & piercings. You: sincere, hung, fun & freaky. ☎ 3519.

Seeking My Hair Covered Dream
Gdlng, GWM, 38, 5'8", 155#, bld/blu, smooth, must. Long to worship the hairiest guy ever! Very oral, light BD. "Lumber jacks," not "Big Bears" please. HIV+, healthy. ☎ 3520.

HIV. Down to Earth. Healthy.
Non pretentious guy. Not into casual sex, mind games or tricks. Many interests, work at maintaining a physically body. Me: 5'10", 180#, proportion, GBM. You: similar, physical condition, interested, leave number & name. Call will be returned. ☎ 3521.

Need a New Boyfriend
WM, 52 (looks 30's) 5'11", 155#, clean shaven, NS, ND, HIV-, looking for AM 25-35, short, slim, for LTR. Like 60's-80's music, theater, dining, travel, scuba, photography, movies, dancing, cats. ☎ 3522.

Rice 4 Rice
GAM, 33, 5'10", 160#, looking for a sincere, relationship-oriented GAM. Enjoy reading, traveling, classical music, intelligent conversation & quiet time at home or on the beach. ☎ 3523.

Young Cute Buns Seeks Older
LTR before 52 is just a rehearsal says ex-intl. television model, 27, new in US, 6'1", 157#, w/satin smooth tan skin & cute bubble buns, seeks sexy, classy, mature, gentleman, 52-67. ☎ 3609.

Need a Lasting Companion
"55" and most sincere HGM ISO a WGM, 25-35, for lasting commitment in a sexual and economic relationship, prefer moderately hung top. ☎ 3610.

Cute and Handsome
GWM, 37, 5'4", 130#, br/bl, HIV-, professionally employed. Passionate w/a great sense of humor. Looking for GWM, 35-50, HIV- for dating, living, loving, & eventual commitment. ☎ 3611.

Seeking Asian Companionship
GWM seeks slim, smooth, clean shaven Asian. I'm nice-looking, 39, 6', 175#, brown hair/hazel eyes, kind, caring, loving, sincere, honest, patient. ☎ 3612.

Attractive Asian
Looking for friendship. I'm 31 yr old, 150#, 5'6", HIV-, sexy, hot & gdlng guy. Don't waste your time, call now, and I'll be waiting for you. ☎ 3613.

Muscular GAM Wants GWM Lover
29, 5'6", 140#, 28"W, handsome, intelligent, kind, hot body, bubble butt bottom, in San Rafael, seek 25-35, slim, masculine, top, hung, HIV-, to love & share meaningful life together. ☎ 3614.

Musculine Hairy Young
Masculine, hairy guy, very laid back, 5'11", 180#, blond intelligent enjoy quite times together. Walks SM, BD, 3-ways or more, cuddling ISO 30's-40's Top man, 5'11", in shape Bear w/similar interests. ☎ 3615.

Ooh Darlin', Explain Your Life
Tall (6'2"), dark, handsome, lean, clean-shaven, masculine, HIV-, extraordinarily private 42 yo GWM seeks secure, sensitive, unabashedly romantic, disarmingly handsome GWM. SF only (Physicians &/or Attorneys need not respond). ☎ 3616.

Are You HIV, Middle Age
In good health and maybe because of diet & exercise you don't physically look your age. You are pass keeping up w/the gang, one night stands, relationship w/no future. ☎ 3617.

Tall Masc, Italian Man
Well endowed, ave to nice kink & warm & sensitive seeks same for fun & poss. LTR. Tony. ☎ 3618.

Buffed GBM 4 Hunky GWM
Muscle, masculine, attractive & intelligent, intensely spirited African-American professional seeks high-quality, mainstream, socially confident, muscular & mature, witty Euro-American professional...for fun laughs, friendship...maybe more! ☎ 3619.

New Boy in Town
Handsome GWM, 40, tall, muscular build, wide mind, deep heart, warm humor, seeks fit, thoughtful Black Latino male for romance & passionate adventures. ☎ 3620.

GWM Seeks Similar GWM 30-45
For fun. Average looking nice guy seeks same. ☎ 3621.

Platonic Gdlng Slim Retired
Guy. Mustache, crewcut, hip, 5'9", 150#, HIV-, seeks similar guy. Non-sexual. Interests: music, opera, politics, science, etc. smoke, bars OK. Restaurants No! SF. ☎ 3622.

Honor My Romantic Side
GWM, 36, 6'1", 180#, HIV+, healthy, wants an honest & sincere romantic adventure. Seeking LTR w/one whose in need of TLC. No substance abuse. ☎ 3623.

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Hot Italian Daddy Wants Boys
40 yr old, GWM, 5'9", 150#, tight muscular body wants boys, 18-25, to provide total service to Daddy. Must be hot! Very oral, Water sports novices welcome. ☎ 3433.

Hot Piece of Ass Wanted
Dominant, muscular, fuck stud, 35 yrs, 185#, 6'1", seeks boys/men, 18-38, w/very tight, muscular, non-fat butts who love an 8" dick up their ass. ☎ 3434.

GLM in Search of GB/WM Tops
You: Masculine, average, honest, in-shape, 30-45 yo, 5'8" or taller, NS/ND. Me: 5'7", 135#, 33 yo, Hispanic, average looks, interested in intimacy, passion, trust. ☎ 3435.

Endless Oral
GWM, 43, 6', 195#, balding/buzz, masculine, healthy, HIV+, Polk area, seeks similar for mutual explicit oral. NS/ND. ☎ 3436.

Safe Sex Orgies
SF, hard bodies, very selective, must be very gelling & great body. Don't respond unless you are hot. Very strict admission policy. ☎ 3437.

Handballers
Wanted by gdlng WM for sensual butt play—open me wide w/your hand & punch my hole—I'm w/your arm. ☎ 3438.

Butch Masculine Hot Bottoms
Needed by hot, handsome, GWM, HIV+, 40's, 6', 170#, hung big & great at fucking hot holes. Beard, hairy, uncut A+. Let me make us happy! Let's fuck. ☎ 3439.

Top Daddy or Leatherman Needed
To train this pussy boy to be the total sex slave. I'm a GWM, 37, 5'7", 135#, shaved head, goatee & mustache. ☎ 3440.

Asian Boy! Assateer Cockseeker
Seeking an attractive Asian or Pacific Islander, under 30, HIV+ who adores being rimmed & sucked by a WM, 44, 185#, 6'2". Please sit on my face! Attitude A+. ☎ 3441.

Law Student
If you are a Law student at McAllister school, I'm living next door. I want to suck your dick. U: 20-35. Me: 29. ☎ 3442.

Dogheart Orlist Seeks Trainer
WM, 50, 5'8", 170#, bald, athletic, healthy HIV+. Expert service for solid aggressive playful topman into long sessions, clean safe damage-free. I inhale, go totally down for your pleasure. ☎ 3443.

Very Simple
Not into relationships just sex. GBM, 36 yr, 6', 195#, hairy & a bottom. Looking for a fun top. ☎ 3444.

Seeking Poz Fucktoy: Rough Sex
WM, 38, 150#, defined, seeks boy-like HIV+ fuck slave to humiliate & rape. Me: handsome, non-hairy, sadistic, hung, thick, bareback-fucker. Your skilled, clean, skinny. Get roughed up, used, fucked brutally. ☎ 3445.

Suck My Big Dick
And I'll suck yours! Hot, hairy, hung GWM, 50, 6', 170#, seeks hot men under 40, in-shape & well hung for ball-draining sessions. ☎ 3446.

Surrender Your Stiff Cock
To this handsome Asian bodybuilder, 34 w/beautiful chiseled muscles! He will pump your hard rod w/his warm, wet mouth, milk it w/his luscious tight jack ass. He wants to kiss you, blow you, ride your jystick! ☎ 3447.

San Francisco Guy Seeking Fun
Gdlng, San Francisco "top" guy, 33, w/indefinite build, seeks gdlng "bottom" guy, in-shape & under 35 for fun & adventure. Give a call! ☎ 3448.

Just Shut Up and Ride
WM, 30, 5'10", 195#, blond hr/blue eyes, muscle hunk wants gdlng & masculine men to top me—anytime. ☎ 3449.

Fantasy BD Master
18, in shape: Bondage the main focus: leather, rope, cuffs, masks. Scenes: Prison, interrogation, arrest, military, etc. ☎ 3450.

Need Deep Throat for 9" Cock
Black male new to SF, would like regular deep throat sessions. HIV-, ND/ND, I can cum & cum! ☎ 3451.

Deep Velvet Throat in Berkeley
Very handsome, slender, masculine, blue-eyed, min. 30's, uppie will suck off in shape, white & Latin studs under 40. Straight or bi? Will eat your girlfriend's pussy too. ☎ 3452.

This Black Cock Sucker Wants U
This black cock sucker loves downing hot loads. Cum let me take the weight out of your balls. Just sit back & enjoy. While I suck your hard cock. You must be 21-30 & have 7". Call me. ☎ 3453.

Visiting Slave
Deliciously Bi & inhibited WM, age 31, handsome & articulate. Unabashedly, submissive visiting Bay area, Nov 15-21 seeks extremely dominant Master and/or Mistress. My submission has no limits. Own me. ☎ 3454.

Handsome Hung Daddy
Age 42 seeking other handsome, hung, Daddies, 35-55. Ralph. ☎ 3455.

Let's Rub Boners
Stick your dick inside my shorts. Bounce, slap, slide, squeeze our stuffs together. Watch me shoot on your swollen dick-head. Pump your load onto my peter. I'm 43, 145#, 5'9", clean-shaven, gdlng. ☎ 3477.

I'm Sexy Asian In Town
32 year old, 5'11", 155#, looking for gay white man. ☎ 3539.

Let's Get Fat!
GWM, 34, 6', 195#, brn/blu, looking for another gainer or encourager. No weight limit for right guy. I like big guys whirly chest & beer bellies around my age who are real men. No Fems please. So let's get together & feed & fatten. ☎ 3466.

Oral Party Pig
Masculine, handsome, smooth, 30 yr GWM, seeks to party w/ (1-1) & service super hung & thick GWM, masculine, Dad/Jock types. Kickback for serious service all weekend. ☎ 3524.

Seeking Asian Third
GWC, 40's, HIV-, seeking attractive Asian for hot, passionate times. Maybe you tried two hot bods on yours? Have it's time! ☎ 3525.

Let's Wrestle
Muscular, handsome GWM seeks others turned on by wrestling. Open to all skill levels & fantasies. No heavy rough housing. Just good, clean, sweaty fun. Go ahead & call—you won't be disappointed. ☎ 3526.

Please Houd Me Sir—Thank You
Hndsm, b/b/b, 5'10", 150#, 37, SJ or SF, for SM, BD, WS, gags & leather. Any race, dominant w/equip. HIV+ tolerant. I'm inexperienced but eager. ☎ 3527.

Horny Bottom Likes to be Fucked
By GBM w/a 9" dick or more. Latino w/a hot hairy, tight ass. Butt pluggers welcome. ☎ 3528.

College Guy
BiCurious, clean-cut, healthy, handsome, buffed UG grad student offers oral satisfaction to big Berkeley weenies. Discreet. No reciprocation. Anytime. Leave message. ☎ 3529.

Forensic Servicing Required
HIV-, WM w/ample overhead, 5'11", 40ish, 160#, brn/smooth, 7" uncut wants to kick back & have his forensic regularly serviced, chewed, stretched, doctored, slow Fr ill u cum. You: 18-50, HIV-, Attr: winsatable forensic appette. ☎ 3530.

Horny Show-Off Suck-Off Orgies
Enormous, young boner seeks studs who love to show off noisily sucking/sharing cock for creamy group suck parties. I wanna watch myself get sucked by two guys at once! ☎ 3531.

Bam, Grunt, Groan, Sweat, Cum
GWM, HIV-, hairy, mustache; seeks animal intense wrestling, boxing, brawling good time. Be in my age, weight class, 35-55, 150-200. Bay area or Sacramento. ☎ 3532.

I Wanna Suck Your
Looking for well built studs who want their masculine clean butts eaten to perfection by Italian stud, 43, 6', 190#, rugged build, facial hair. Call me pal. ☎ 3533.

Just How Good Are You?
Horny WM, 37 yo, seeking bold job of a lifetime! I carry a tasty piece of meat. Need one badly, will travel. Young WM A+. ☎ 3534.

GWM 38 Very Good Lng Musc
Seeks fuck buddy near Santa Rosa for fucking & ass eating, HIV- only. I love to eat a man's hole. ☎ 3535.

Boxing/Hot Oral Sex Wanted
Masochistic GWM boxing novice seeks to be over powered in boxing match prior to oral sex. Nasty young guys & short men A+! No fems, hustlers. ☎ 3536.

I Like Big Guys
Handsome oral 6'1", 180#, likes big muscular guys w/big tits, thighs, ass, dick. Safe, HIV- only. Let me eat & work your tits while you ride my ass. ☎ 3537.

Thin Muscle Boys Wanted
I'm intensely attracted to thin, defined, muscular boys, particularly if they like getting fucked by a dominant, muscular guy w/in 8 inch dick. ☎ 3538.

Seeking That Ultimate B-Boy
Young prof. GBM, attract, well-built seeks under 25, hung 9", masculine B-boy to tame & top me. African American/Latino only. ☎ 3540.

Wanted Asian Dark Skinned Latin
18-30's who are in shape, bottoms into getting their mouths, tits & ass used by VRHDS 45 yrs. Sicilian BB, call if you need your Dad. ☎ 3541.

Queer Butt Boy/Boy Toy
Boy toy is 27 yr, 5', 155#, 7 1/2" cut. Seeking queer boy/man tops 20-35 yrs, w/hwt prop. w/big dicks to shove in my mouth & up my butt. Vanilla to queer kick, toys, porn. ☎ 3542.

Lay Back Relax, Then Ride Me
Seek African/Asian/Latin topmen. You'd love a deep massage, then you'd mount me & ride us both to a mind-blowing high. I'm GWM, 5'8", 230#, 50. UB: yourself. ☎ 3543.

Nothing Too Complicated
Tired of scenes, fetishes & body parts? Stop here. Sexy GWM, seeks same for hot fierce encounters. I'm 30, 5'10", 170#. You be 24-40, clean-shaven face, ready to roll. ☎ 3544.

Powerful W Men Need Discipline
I like to use & abuse, successful white men. Any age or profession. I'm looking for a regular, ongoing, get together, I'm sincere, you should be too. ☎ 3545.

Hot Italian Needs to Have Fun
With sexy, hot, in shape, other's lots of oral fun. I like tops versatile. I'm hung 8 1/2" what about you? ☎ 3546.

Plumbing Backed Up?
Have your tube sucked by a big guy, 290 lb., brown hair, blue eyes. Watch porno while having tube serviced. Looking for repeats. No recip. nec. ☎ 3547.

All Oral Service Delivered
SF, GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, delivers complete oral service to guys who dig getting sucked off. Prefer trim, mature, no reciprocation. ☎ 3548.

Hung Big
Hot, 6', 35, 150#, gdlng, All-American collegiate-type w/ymg toned body, hung big seeks gdlng guys hung as big (or bigger?) Couples A+. ☎ 3549.

Hot & Frustrated in Fremont
Sexy, healthy, & horny 27 yr old male ISO men to play w/experienced top & a hungry virgin bottom. Age & race doesn't matter. Mutual satisfaction does. ☎ 3550.

Men's Sensual Group to Start
Senior GWM, 57", 130#, begs to worship for playful man to man sensual times. You have integrity & mutual respect & come enjoy male eroticism in a group setting. ☎ 3551.

Expert Cockseeker
Senior GWM, 57", 130#, begs to worship masc, verbal topman, over 40, wgt. proportion. Cauc or Asian. ☎ 3552.

Forensic Muncher
WM, 40, 6'5", 220#, crazy about your hooded prize. Have your overhand chewed, nibbled, sucked & tugged for your pleasure & mine. Be fit, hung, under 40. Hispanic A+. ☎ 3553.

Ass Massage-Erotic Spanking
Top will make your butt feel wonderful. Me: attract, GWM, 46, 6'5", 250#, husky build. You: attract, GWM, 18-35, slim, smooth-moderate body hair, nice hams. Give yourself a break today. ☎ 3554.

Let's Eat & Fuck
Versatile, 5'11", well built, hung big, need Cam men, 20-30's, well built w/hairy bubble butt to eat & fuck. ☎ 3555.

XXX Polaroids
Handsome 41 yr old, WM will take erotic pics of healthy cute boyish exhibitionists who like to get nasty for instant photos. ☎ 3556.

GBM HIV+ ISO Jap or GWM Tops
Healthy HIV+, GBM, 180#, 5'11", ISO total tops. Prefer Japanese or GWM under 40. A+ for small, well-built men w/big dicks. ☎ 3562.

Italian Dad Seeks Son
To have & to take care of. Be sweet & cute, prep. 18-30 to 40 OK. Tony. ☎ 3625.

Nasty Boys Wanted
For long fuck sessions. UB: GWM/GLM, 25-35 yo, clean shaven, good shape, w/hot head, ready & willing. Me: GWM top, good shape, 5'6", 140#, brn/bn, 40 yo. ☎ 3626.

Top Seeks Top
Good-looking, in shape, very sexy, hairy body & equipment, 5'10", 170#, young 50's. Approaching temporary dominant burn out. Need challenge seek similar, hairy preferred. Let's chew some tit. See who gets hot. ☎ 3627.

Horny Buttocks
ISO cock, cum, fists. Bareback only. Me: 44, tall, trim, Poz. You: horny, hung, S. ☎ 3644.

Uncircumcised Male Wanted
WM ISO uncut man for oral encounters. UB: fit, masculine, muscular Daddies, blue collars, exp Hispanics. ☎ 3638.

Seeking Hairy Hung Guy
5'9", 185#, beely, muscular, brigr, hung, U, C, smooth, HIV-, 31 yo, seeks hairy, hung, guy for regular sessions, age, race, shape unimportant. Just be hairy, hung, HIV-. ☎ 3628.

Uncut? Hung?
If you have a huge uncut dick, let's meet. Me: 6'2", 210#, brn/gm, very well built. You have an enormous uncut dick. Heavy & horse hung A+. ☎ 3629.

BSM into Butch Bottom & More!
Lookin' for nice Mexican or Latin brother to kick it with. No femme please. Friendship &/or more. ☎ 3630.

Double Treat!
Equipped w/succulent thick meat & tasty butthole? Qualifiers sought by aggressively oral muscle GAM for fun times. No drugs; 3-way OK. HIV- a must. ☎ 3631.

Are You Dom Hot Horny & Hung
2 Masculine, gdlng bottom men, 5'11", 175#, each will submit to you & others. Anywhere, time or place you want it. Parking lots, doorways? Get kinky. ☎ 3632.

Safe Sex Buddies/Massage Mates
Edt GWM, 44, 6'5", 200#, 175#, brn/blu, gaytease seeking GBM, GLM & GAM, 21-50, gym-toned, slim-built to average for hot times & adventures. ☎ 3633.

Enter and Be Safe
You're a well-built, 20's-40's, NS, GB/BIWM, any height. Whether shy or brash, you'd like to sexually dominate & give condom-top an attractive, unaffected 38 yo, 6'3", 175#, short-haired, clean-shaven & highly responsive bottom. ☎ 3634.

Fat, Black, 50 year old East Bay
Man, road needs 10-minute deep throat expert to relieve me at 6 AM or 11 PM daily. Sincere, serious, mobile experts only please. Outdoor test first. Thanks. ☎ 3635.

Rauch & Sleaze...
In Tijuana, leaving in mid January for a week of safe, wild times in both houses & porn theaters. Looking for other masculine men to share the adventure. (No drugs) ☎ 3636.

In My Face Sort of Guy
Wants your heavy load in mine. Great oral service for masculine blacks, Asians, & super hairy men. Your place, HIV-, GWM 41, fit, hungry. Gives no hassle head. ☎ 3637.

Maccho Bossman
Tall, tough, bearded, hairy, well-built, WM, 42, seeks masculine, built, punk boy, any age or race to dominate, humiliate, violate. Into verbal abuse, bondage, spit, rimming, blowjobs. No smokers/druggies. ☎ 3639.

Love Tit Work & Massage?
So do I. Masc, GWM, 53, 6'2", 280#, HIV-, gray/blue. Smoker, drug free, light drinker, not into bars. ISO similar, 40's-60's, h/wt prop to stocky for fuck-buds. LTR possible. A trimmed beard, uncut dick & big balls are all pluses. ☎ 3640.

Bare Butt Spankings
Administered to deserving boys. Will use hard, paddle & strip to teach a lesson you won't forget. Young inexperienced OK. This coach is 37, tall, muscular, healthy. LTR is 37. ☎ 3641.

Missed My Messages
If you answered ad #3225, smooth hungry black butt, 42, HIV+, slender, super tight butt & didn't get a response, please try again. Some message got erased before I got the info down. Esp those on Sun Nov 3rd. ☎ 3642.

Muscle Love
Does silky olive skin on sculpted muscles make your cock rise in pulsating salute, cum boiling in your belly? Handsome, Hawaiian, bodybuilder, 35, wants other uninhibited musclemen. ☎ 3643.

FETISHES

Saline Filled Ball Sack
Looking for men w/experience and/or supplies to fill my ball sack w/saline. Gdng kinky leatherman, 37, 6'4", 180#, beard, whuge sack that hold a lot. ☎ 3456.

Boots and
Levis, leather, uniforms. WM, 42, HIV-, 185#, sexual & sensual. Keep the S&M attitude for someone else. ☎ 3457.

Tarzan Wrestling!
6', 185#, Tarzan seeks friendly rivals for nude Tom of Finland style wrestling. Clean technique, nobody gets hurt, both guys win. Friendly, muscular guy, fun to wrestle with. Scared? I'll let ya win. ☎ 3458.

Slave Seeks Dominant Man
Masochistic men seeks sadist. Please sir, slave wants to expand all limits. Obedience promised. Please call w/your orders. ☎ 3459.

Leather Hoods
Hot muscular guy gets off on leather hooded encounters. ☎ 3460.

GLM Seeks Dominant Asian
Looking for dominant Asians who want to kick back & et slow, sensual oral service all over from a masc, GLM, 39. Let me give you the oral service you need. ☎ 3461.

Slaveboy 4 U
Let me please you on my knees. Submissive bottom will service your feet, toes & other parts. Must be dominant & aggressive. ☎ 3462.

Sock X-Change
GLM, 28, wants to x-change pieces in my collection for yours: socks, photos, stones, sheer socks a plus. ☎ 3463.

Man W/Toe Ring Loves Barefeet
Lifetime excitement looking at & fantasizing about men's barefeet. Gdlng, E. Bay GWM, 5'9", trim, tan, HIV-, loves reciprocal kissing, lifting, massaging barefeet & sensual/safe all over body play. ☎ 3464.

Gorgeous Feet
25 yo, Asian, 5'11", 170#, smooth & muscular body, big feet wants to meet sugar Daddies to worship my feet. ☎ 3465.

North Bay Tops Wanted
You: 18-35, slender, masculine, like to drink beer & kick back. Me: 46, 5'11", 175#, masculine, discreet, & very submissive orally. BJ, WS, TT. Students & military A+. ☎ 3467.

Pit Stop
Thirty piss drinker welcomes you to stop by & use my mouth. Quickly or stay for more. ☎ 3468.

Shorts
If sexy, shiny, skimpy, soft, short, shorts turn you on as much as they do mine—we need to talk. ☎ 3469.

Dominator
Mature/experienced Master looking for small cocked pansy boy to dominate & humiliate. Must be submissive & eager to serve. Limits restricted. Call & give your specifications & a brief fantasy. ☎ 3470.

Young Raunch Stud
Needed young sexy stud who wants to get serviced & be willing to get real raunchy, WS & more, now is your chance! ☎ 3557.

Make Videos With Us Club
Men, 35-55, HIV-, script, perform & direct videos for fun, no money. Explore fetishes & fantasies. ☎ 3558.

Vers Leather/Latex Raunch Pig
GWM, 39, 5'10", 180#, crew cut. Lkg for versatile man of color for hot SM, ranch action. Cigar smokers A+. ☎ 3559.

Crutches Wheelchair
GWM, 49, ISO gay men under 40 w/crutch or wheelchair fetishes. Let's share fantasies & play games! ☎ 3560.

Daytime Asshole Eater
Get your asshole eaten by a pro. ☎ 3561.

Hairy Chest to Hairy Chest
Hairy, stocky GWM, 5'8", 160#, ISO rough, hairy buddies into hard pec work (claw holds, punches, slaps, hair-tugging), bear hugs, 69, JO. Real plus for hairy men of color, redheads. Let's bang chest! ☎ 3562.

Sonoma Slave from Hell!
GWM needs experienced Ltr Master under 40 for safe winter games. Russian River area. ☎ 3563.

Bondage for Asians
WM, late 40's, will strip, tie you up, play w/your cock, balls, tits & make you cum. Explore your fantasy. Muscular A+. ☎ 3564.

I am Back
WM w/big clean feet, cut, come on get naked. Relax & let a 50's hot tongue & mouth make you feel good. ☎ 3652.

Black Master Needs W Slave Men
I'm friendly, spiritual & domineering-gently. I want white men, any age to be my slaves. For pissing, spanking & verbal cruelty. Sincere only. ☎ 3565.

Erotic Ticking
Attractive, friendly GWM, early 40's, excellent shape, seeks similar (20's-40's) for hot tickling sessions. Must be ticklish, especially on feet. Will reciprocate w/right person. Relationship possible, optional. ☎ 3645.

Big Balls Fat Dick Verbal Dom
I squat fully clothed in front of you (verbal top), wrap lips around dickhead, watch huge balls swing while I jerk you off. Be HIV- so I can swallow payload. ☎ 3646.

Feet and More
Latino guy, 30, 5'11", very attractive. Would like to meet Latins or Whites, 21-30, NS, ND, into foot fetish. Serious only. No lies. ☎ 3647.

Woodshed Discipline
Gdlng WM, 47, 5'10", 155#, strict but caring, seeks cute, in-shape, clean-shaven WM under 30 needing thrashing, humiliation w/other bad boy. Also seeking co-disciplinarian WM, 30-50, handsome, sane, scene oriented. ☎ 3648.

Manhole Wanted
Do your protrude, w/lots of lip on it. You: in shape, 21-45. Let my hot tongue work it good. I'm hot, handsome, 40, 5'11", 160#. ☎ 3649.

Oral Slave
Wants two or more masculine men to use me. Suck dick, lick balls, rim, WS, SM any or all of the above, GWM, 35, 5'11", 160#, blo, blngm. ☎ 3650.

Ouch!
Spank me, tie me up, Jack me off slowly while looking into my eyes. Sexy boy, 30, 5'8", 130#, seeks take charge man. ☎ 3651.

Gummer Wanted
You take out your dentures & go down on me. Me: mature, clean, GWM, HIV-. You: clean, any age, race, HIV- No S. ☎ 3653.

Straight WM Needs Humiliation
Let this mature masculine male watch you jack off. Slap my face w/your hard cock coming on my face & rubbing it w/your semi hard cock. ☎ 3654.

Kinky Buffed Blond
Very attractive, gym toned, 32, bottom (but versatile) seeks attractive, in-shape GAM for kinky, sleazy fun: FF & toys, piss, raunch, light SM & BD, verbal abuse &—? ☎ 3655.

COUPLES

Serviceman Wanted/E. Bay
Interacial HIV+, attractive couple in East Bay 37, 51 yo, seeking bottom who sucks real good & has a tight butt. Be aggressive, not shy. ☎ 3471. ☎ 3471.

My Lover Doesn't Like 3-Ways
But I do! GWM, 38, 6', 173#, brn/bn, handsome Italian, healthy HIV+ seeks couple 25-45, in EB or SF. I'm usually oral & bottom, but versatile in trios. ☎ 3566.

Tops Looking 4 Mr. Good Bottom
Gdlng SF couple, HIV-, 40 & 42, tired of monogamy. Looking for hot bottom, HIV-, 25-45, who is ready to play. ☎ 3656.

OTHER

Black Top Looking For Date
I'm 53, HIV+, healthy, beard, shaved head. Boots & jeans kind of guy. Let's talk! ☎ 3472.

Vacation To Greek Isles
Seek travel companion top man. Me: 5'9", 148#, submissive bottom. You will have a good time. ☎ 3473.

Seeking Trans-Sexual
Seeking post op or pre op transsexual. Passable, physically slender. For erotic pleasures. Seeker is 40's male, 5'10", thin build, 155#, brown hair & eyes. ☎ 3567.

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Gay marriage gets complicated—finally!

by Wayne Hoffman

In an era when sound bites and slogans are a substitute for serious discussion, it's a relief to see political issues covered in an expansive, thoughtful, human way. Gay marriage is the hot topic on newsstands this fall, and unusually intelligent coverage is making public discussion of the issue broader and deeper, yet more complex and personal than is the norm.

In the cover story of November's *Harper's* magazine, novelist Fenton Johnson widens the marriage lens to explore what gays and lesbians have to offer a society re-examining the nature of relationships as a whole. Marriage is a vital civil rights struggle, Johnson acknowledges, but focusing on it exclusively obscures the creativity and flexibility that gay men and lesbians have invested in their relationships in the absence of legal recognition. It is this creativity that can help transform social relationships regardless of sexual orientation or legal status, he asserts.

Tying together history, philosophy, feminism, and personal experience, Johnson weaves a nuanced argument about the pressures straining all relationships in the '90s. Despite the cover's provocative question—"Do gays and lesbians really want the right to marry?"—Johnson brings in real-life examples that show the ways legal structures and individual emotions are bound together.

"A lot of gays and lesbians say that we have many battles to fight and marriage is only one of them," he says. "They're not usually the people who have a partner who happens to be a foreign citizen, or a person fighting a custody battle."

All the same, he maintains, it is essential not to lose sight of the virtues of non-married relationships. Gay relationships have survived for ages without legal sanction or societal support; clearly there must be something socially valuable to be learned from these alternative models.

"We should be clamoring for a sea change which includes marriage, but also continue to point out the virtues of diversity in the social recognition of relationships," says Johnson. "It's important not to clamor for traditional marriage to the exclusion of other



Writer Fenton Johnson

options, because the risk that is entailed in that is [that] there would be the same hierarchical structure that currently exists in heterosexual society."

Gays and lesbians are in an ideal position to challenge hierarchies that value married couples over non-marrieds, blood families over chosen families, sexual partners over friends, nuclear families over childless couples. In his big picture, Johnson deepens and complicates the issue of gay marriage beyond the immediate demands of civil rights.

While *Harper's* is broadening the gay marriage discourse into a discussion of relationships in America, *Newsweek* is expanding the issue of gay couples into gay families. The cover story of the November 4 issue features lesbian rocker Melissa Etheridge and her partner, Julie Cypher, with the headline "We're Having a Baby."

In addition to a brief interview with the couple, the cover story deals with issues of adoption and artificial insemination, parental struggles and children's anxieties, social acceptance and family rejection. Parents and children tell their stories, complete with pressures and disappointments, breakthroughs and rewards. Without painting an overly rosy picture, *Newsweek* approaches the issue in a matter-of-fact and thoughtful way.

"It's like watching a big ocean liner change direction," says Peg Byron, Education Director for Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund. "When the marriage issue started to break last spring, the religious right caught hold of it. It gave us a chance to make our case, but in a very hostile environment. Now the Melissa Etheridge-type stories start coming up."

And come up they do. *US News & World Report* covered gay families recently, and even stodgy *Life* magazine features a two-page photo of two men in bed in its November article on gay marriage. Television's *20/20* and *Turning Point* have covered gay families this month as well. Most remarkable, as Byron suggests, is how non-controversial the subject seems to be in current media reporting.

"The point is that these relationships are here, and they're human, and people you admire are involved in these relationships," says Byron of the coverage. "In *Harper's*, [Johnson] took this politically charged issue and turned it into a personal issue. We're going from this hostile politicized coverage to real life and even admired celebrities."

If the media coverage seems to have turned around rapidly, the readerships seem to be lagging a bit behind—although those statistics are changing as well. *Newsweek* includes results from a poll in its coverage, noting that 57 percent of adults said gay people could be as good at parenting as straight people; only 31 percent disagreed. The second question, however, elicited a less encouraging response: only 36 percent said gay couples should have adoption rights, while 47 percent oppose the notion.

To put the poll in a positive light, only two years ago, the numbers were stacked more than two-to-one against gay adoption rights. Still, the results on the adoption question are disappointing considering the first question. And aren't the two responses somewhat contradictory?

"It's a cognitive dissonance phase," jokes Byron, who notes that gay adoption's approval rating is still higher than Bob Dole's during the presidential campaign.

Perhaps cognitive dissonance can explain how *Newsweek* justifies exploring gay parenting while it addresses marriage only tangentially—the article's most serious flaw. Senior Editor John Capouya says he is eager to depict them as entirely separate issues; whether *Newsweek* would ever write a story on heterosexual parents that doesn't deal with marital issues like "unwed mothers" or "children of divorce" or "premarital sex" seems unlikely, but in this case the editors didn't see the connection. In fact, they had toyed with a story on gay marriage, but in the wake of the Defense of Marriage Act and poll numbers on the subject that weren't moving, they decided it was a dead issue.

"We thought the gay marriage story was a non-starter, and a much more interesting story was what it's like for people raising families," he says. "It wasn't so much a connection as a rejection of one story for the other."

Barbara Kantrowitz, who wrote *Newsweek's* lead article, agrees.

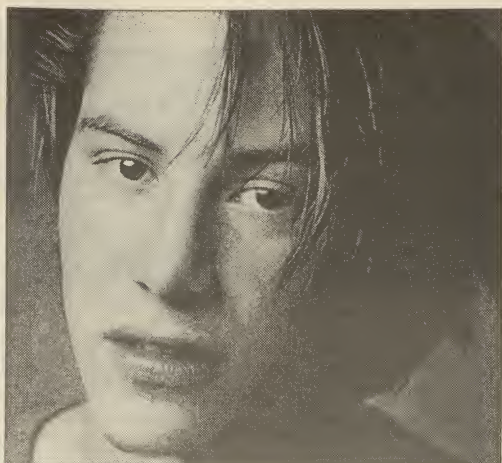
"I see them as separate issues, because not all gays who are parents are in relationships," she says. But a moment later, she finds a link. "Certainly for gays who are in partnerships and want to adopt children together, having legalized marriage would make a huge difference, so for that group they are definitely related."

And for gays who already have children, marriage could make their families more secure, adds Byron. Insurance, inheritance, custody, and taxes are all "parental" issues connected to marriage. While they are indeed different subjects, Byron sees the connections that *Newsweek* does not.

"They're still separate legal issues, but the issues have linkages in some ways," says Byron, who quickly finds the most important connection. "An important linkage is in perception."

The average American who sees the cover of *Newsweek* undoubtedly connects parenting and marriage as related family issues, and, in effect, the entire issue of gay marriage is broadened into a larger discussion of gay families. *Newsweek* fails to make this link explicit in an otherwise admirable article, but in the context of abundant, smart media coverage, readers can connect the dots themselves. ▼

MUSIC



Dogstar bassist, Keanu Reeves.

Big cheese

by Stephanie von Buchau

Keanu. Keanu Reeves. Keanu darling. Well, if critics for other local weeklies (you know who you are) can gush publicly over him, why can't I? The secret of the adorable Eurasian boy-man we love so much is that he is a lot smarter than anyone gives him credit for. We can speculate on his sexual orientation; his rumored substance abuse; his motorcycle crashes; and whether or not he can act or play the rhythm guitar, but he won't tell.

Dogstar, the three-piece band Keanu plays bass for, has recently released its first album. This multi-media CD is called *Quattro Formaggi* (Zoo Entertainment; \$11.99), a title as enigmatic as Keanu himself. For those not ad-

dicted to Italian food, the "four cheeses" of the title is a sinfully rich pasta sauce. What cheese sauce has to do with Dogstar is a subject for the Internet web site (<http://www.dogstarfan.com>). As for the music, Dogstar is an average garage rock band, loud but not ugly, with an incomprehensible, hoarse-voiced singer, Bret Domrose, who also writes the songs, plays lead guitar, and, judging from the album photos, looks like a hip John Tesh.

If Keanu weren't part of the mix, I doubt Dogstar would have even a single disc on the market. If you listen intently, you can hear our boy's bass thumping away at the end of a song called "Behind Her." A merchandise catalog is included with the disc. I bought the black Dogstar baseball cap; it's cooler than the painfully earnest, four-chord music on this CD. ▼

MEDIA

Boy wonders



Jeff Palmer

This year's AIDS Benefit Calendar (11 x 22) features 13 photographic images including powerful and beautiful images of men alone and men with men — sensual and erotic, but non-sexual (better luck next time) — all celebrating the beauty of men and male couples. Proceeds from the sale of the AIDS Benefit Calendar are distributed to agencies across the country that provide direct services to people living with HIV and AIDS. More than \$350,000 has been distributed to AIDS care organizations since the first AIDS Benefit Calendar was issued in 1990.

To receive the calendar, send \$13 (plus \$3 shipping/handling) to: AIDS Benefit Calendar, Dept. JB, P.O. Box 230034, Encinitas, CA 920023-0034.

The calendar is available in SF at Under One Roof, 2362 Market St. Call (619)-744-8360 for more information. Contact the AIDS Benefit Calendar on the Internet at <http://www.jeffpalmer.com> ▼

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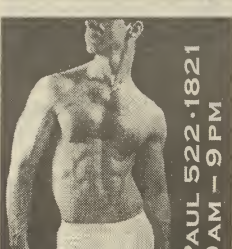
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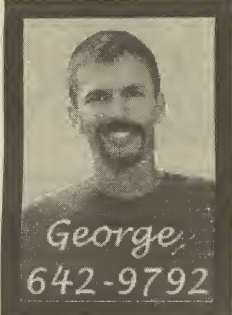


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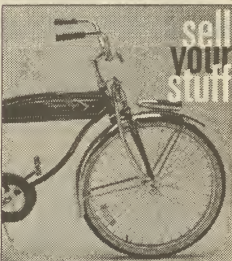
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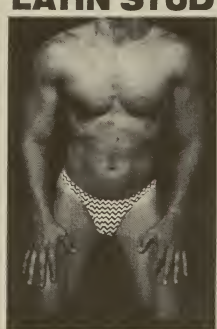
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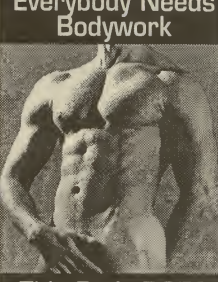
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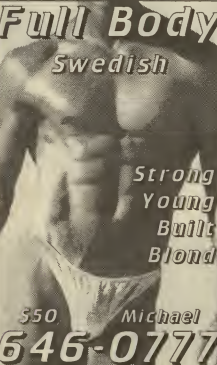
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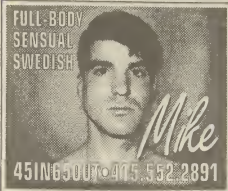
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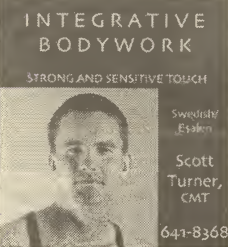
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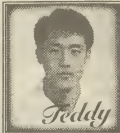
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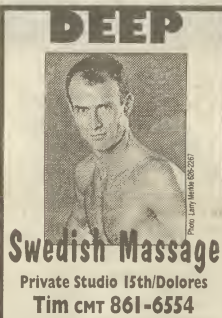
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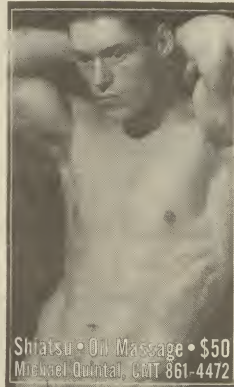
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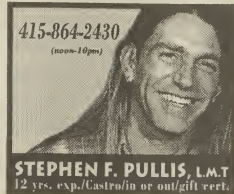
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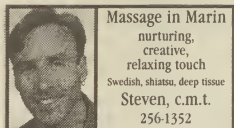
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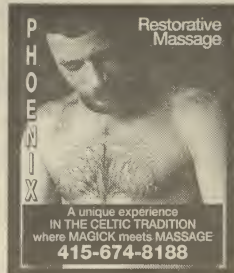
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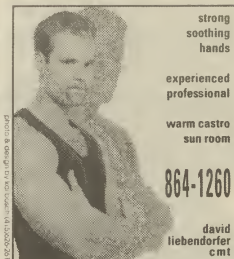
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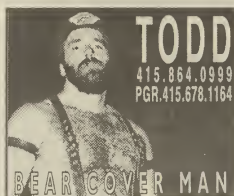
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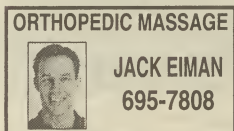
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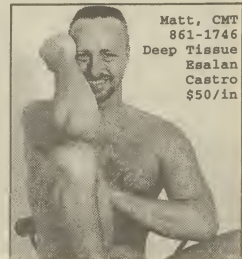


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BARBERS**
San Francisco's
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CALL FOR APPT. (415) 426-2450 • (CASTRO)

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MESSAGE
ANYTIME!
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ONLY \$2.00 PER CALL (GOOD FOR 24 HOURS OF CALLING)

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16032 Sherman Way, Suite 365, Van Nuys, CA 91406-4079
Adults Only. Must be 18 or older. Prices subject to change without notice.

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AL AND OCCULT MATERIAL
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FREE
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LIVE!!! NO GIMMICKS

PERSONALS

PEOPLE

WHY PAY MORE?
A LIVE GAY CONNECTOR SERVICE!

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Why pay expensive Int'l Toll Rates?
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ALL CALLERS MUST BE 18+

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For the first time in the USA!
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AS LOW AS **60¢** PER MIN
NO CREDIT CARD NEEDED! NO CALLER REFUSED! NO ONE UNDER 18!
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Meet local men by phone!

Record ads
Listen to ads
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FREE! (415) 452-3700 code: **4222**
Adults Only! Restrictions apply. Additional features \$2.49/min. 888-604-4287

CLUB ORAL!
Matching! Meeting! Messaging!
Try It **FREE!** Use Code 4185
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Wednesday Nights
J/O Only
Garage/Warehouse now open
8pm-Midnight Wednesdays.
Must check street clothes to
enter (underwear OK)
J/O ONLY ALLOWED
(No oral or anal sex)
(Tue and Fri J/O parties remain
unchanged)
For info: 415-474-6995
Circle J Cinema 369 Ellis St.
San Francisco Metro: Powell

Body Trims
Backs, Butts, Balls, Etc. In/Out
Frank (510) 639-1789

E47

BAY AREA MEN

- Live Talk
- Meet Ads
- Voice Mail

24 Hours
\$2.00
976-7500

Free
(415)
981-8123

Daddy will train trim Lad in the art
of Obedience Thru B0ndage and Dis-
cipline 928-7457 • Tom

E50

GROUP J/O PARTIES

Tuesdays, Fridays & Sundays
(8pm - 12M/1am Fri)

If you like to get hard, show off and
watch or play with other guys who like
the same, these parties are for you. Ex-
hibitionists and voyeurs equally welcome.
Comfortable and laid-back, you can play
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uous video screens showing both recent
releases and J/O specialty videos.

In addition to video-room spaces, adjoining
huge warehouse area open for these
parties only! Cool lighting, seating, play
spaces. Mandatory clothes check 8pm-
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able on Sunday, J/O only. Admission \$8

Circle J Cinema 369 Ellis St
415.474.6995

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lbs, Top looking for WM bottom
under 32. Safe only Jay • 487-1271

E46

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Local Men
1 on 1
Voicemail
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2 dollars for 2 hours
Adults Only

PEOPLE

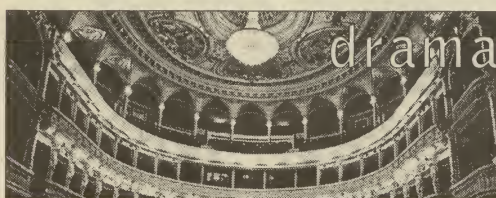
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CORY
6'2"
230

50 chest
36 waist
13 feet
27 yrs
Masculine
Friendly

THE POWERFUL MASTER in Town
HOT, HAIRY, DOMINANT
Experienced, Most Scenes
Fully Stocked Private Playroom

TOM 487-1296

SONOMA COUNTY
S & M MASTER
Come to this secluded spot out in the country and surrender. Give yourself up to the power of masculine energy. Let yourself be dominated by an experienced and highly-trained master who knows what you want and will give it to you—slowly, sensuously, and powerfully.
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LISTEN TO ADS LEFT BY THE HOTTEST MODELS
OR LEAVE YOUR OWN!
BULLETIN BOARDS BY AREA CODE

1-900-740-TOOL

MODELS INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING ON LINE CALL 1-800-742-2499
ADULTS ONLY / \$3 PER MINUTE / TELEMAR, NY, NY

MODELS/ESCORTS

**FULL
GERMAN**

**DEVON
207-2516**

**SOUTH BAY
BUFF AND SEXY**
Muscles bottom from So. America
5'9", 165#, blk/bm, 31"W, 41"
chest, 14, arm, 6" w/ bg head
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CUTE 22 YR OLD
5'7", 140, lean, smooth, clean cut
Bm/Bm, call Chad 241-9381

Cute, Versatile White Guy for Asians
Eric (510) 452-4046

CUTE GERMAN
6'2", 175#, 9", UNCUT, 20YRS
SAFE, IN/OUT CALLS \$100
JOE * PGR (415) 220-5664

DOMINATION!!!!
Bondage fantasies 22yo 24 hrs *
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FRENCH MARINE
New in Town
From Paris
6' 210 lbs,
560-1278

**NEW
LATIN BOYS**
Quality escorts
In Out pg 389-3673
219-7331

HOT BOY GONE TRASHY
21 yo Blond Sexy Tight Swim Build
Rick 241-1549 24 hrs

WHEN YOU NEED A TOP
Buttplay, from condoms to FF.
Ripped muscular hairy top has big
tool and hands. Ask about
fisting/massage special 861-1671

**HOT HANDSOME
REDHEAD**
5'7", 135lbs, smooth, cleancut
24hours 929-1803 pgr 790-2573

SLAVIC COLLEGE JOCK
Hot sexy bodybuilder 8" uncut buns
of steel-can offer wild & friendly
time
789-7320

X X X HUNG THICK BOY
New 24yo, Smth, Ripple, Swmr
Body Very Cute * Matt (415) 280-
2736

Porn video auditions: Send photo &
stats: 2300 market, #29, SF, CA
94114

Winston 998-0991 massage. SM. 69,
Assian

CALL THIS AD!!!
Dominant, Submissive, any scenes is
yours! Adorable, sincere 22yo Ath-
letic and Easygoing! Nathan 24hrs
487-7662

**CUTE SEXY
SMOOTH**
Cuddly boy, kissable, tight, swim-
mer's body, 5'7", 135lbs gr/br 24yrs
Troy pr 679-1058

Cocky Badboy Skatedude Domi-
nates!! Beauty Brains Brawns Boner
does Betty 4 Benfranklin. Need 4 real
man 2 worship? Hawaiian Honcho
5'9", 165#, blk 487-9234

HUNK/BODYBUILDER
SHY JEEF PGR 997-7307

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18 yo Models**

ONE OF MANY MODELS
CALL STEVE 333-4304

4 Fun Toys More Page Slew 245-6069
LOW HANGETRS \$60

100% NY ITALIAN
Handsome, Bi- Bodybuilder, 32,
5'10", 180lbs. of smooth ripped
muscle.
Great chest. Bpr. (415) 807-6795

BLUE COLLAR IRISHMAN
Patrick, 346-1061 In/Out, In/Out
T.J. Carpenter 207-6613

24 hr Top out little Red Riding hood
Looking for big bad wolf to eat me
(shy Ok) really really good!
605-6844

Mouth watering 18yo ass slim/smooth
body cleancut. Loves to be serviced
out/24hrs Call pgr: (415) SEX-TITT

EASTBAY STUD
25, Tan, Smooth, discreet
Bld, Brn, Toned, Hung
(510) 218-4012 * \$75 Firm

**SOUTHERN
COMFORT**
100 Proof
TRY A SLOW QUIET EVENING
AND A STIFF HOT CREAMY
SHOT OF HOLIDAY CHEER
WITH A MUSTACHEEDED FURRY
HANDSOME WRANGLER AND HIS
BIG HOT SMOKING GUN.
NEVER IN A RUSH TO LET
YOU GET IT OFF AND UNLOAD IT
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DOMINATION!!!
Disciplined Buddhist 22yo, model boy
will set u straight! Bondage, SM fan-
stasy massage 24hrs. Always Nathan
487-7662

SLIM DEVIL 9X6
Hot tool * etra-special * cut *
mouthfull!
Sexy * safe * sweet, young dutchboy
for expanded palates. Handsome and
fun! Outcalls & appts. Page Galen
245-5991

**HANDSOME
PRINCE**
Darling 22yo offers fantasies, mas-
sage, will travel. 24hrs. Always
friedly & sincere. Buddhist with a radi-
cal edge! In/Out 24 hr Nathan
487-7662

KINKY BOY TOY
Sexy, Smooth boy loves to please
tight athletic body, 5'7", 135lbs,
24yr for you to enjoy pr 679-1058

I'm almost gone! Call this Hot German
for a night to remember! Uncut, 8in.,
Cute and cool 474-6786 Nickalaus

Slim, Sleek and Smooth Blonde Boy at
your service! Tall, boyish, All-American,
21 yrs. old. Call Alex 474-6786

Extra sexy & masculine video star
COUGAR CASH
Beautiful face & body w/ Pac Abs *
Bondage and/or Escort * 922-8600

I'm almost gone! Call this Hot German
for a night to remember! Uncut, 8in.,
Cute and cool 474-6786 Nickalaus

Slim, Sleek and Smooth Blonde Boy at
your service! Tall, boyish, All-Ameri-
can, 21 yrs. old. Call Alex 474-6786

**TRASHY
TOP MAN**

punk type
tattoos.
piercings
LEATHER
hung low
thick
& hard
in/out
24/7
most scenes
Randy
415.582.9395

**9 THICK INCHES
VERY HARD FOR HOT MEN**
27yo, Clean Cut, Top
6'2", 180 lbs. 280-7340 Cole

SEXY SWIMMER STUD
6'1", 170#, 23, Fun, Frisky, Hung
Excellent stroke * Goes deep 764-
6326

WHAT
Do you want to eat? Private meals by
Rimming porn star. 36yo, top, hot
Bubble butt. Bryan 560-9478

**JEWISH
MEDITERRANEAN**
Very handsome, hazel eyes, great
body gorgeous butt & well endowed.
Friendly & versatile. Fulfill your
fantasy 207-6117

Very Asian Bot. Very smth, 5'8",
140 x-porn, x-military, In/Out (415)
560-6353

LIKE EM TALL ?
ATHLETIC STUD
HANDSOME, HUNG, 10X7
Pgr 207-5315

Sexy Sissy boy-Hard Smooth Body
21, 5'9", 140# lb, gr/bl, hung, cute
ass. Out Calls only am/pm tyler 270-
1262

Sexy, Sissy Boy-Hard Smooth body
21, 5'9", 140#, gr/bl, hung, cute
ass. Out Calls only am/pm Tyler 270-
1262

Very Cute Friedly * Hung 9 1/2",
Thick BLOND SKATE PUNK BOY
23yo * Top * Showoff * Sweet *
908-6758

Dominant/Hot/Marine/Skinhead/Fan-
tasties

**USMC
DRESSBLUES**
32yo, 5'11", bl/blue, Flat-topped
stud outrageous Playroom! Deviant
Brian *** Hot! Karl 621-5061

FRESH FACE
Hot 26, Bl/Bl, Hung, 6'2", 190 lbs
Kicks Back 224-0381

Cute BeautBlondBlue
Smooth/Tall/Slim
SEXY ARTIST BOY
Swell chats * Zen Backrub *
Sexy/Fantasy sensual & smart 4
Gents Paul 253-8600

Extra sexy & masculine video star
COUGAR CASH
Beautiful face & body w/ Pac Abs *
Bondage and/or Escort * 922-8600

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
Friendly Handsome Smooth Filipino
25, 5'11", 160#, with nice swim-
mer's body. discreet and Safe. Dis-
count before 11pm! 24 Hours/Out
only

ADAM 208-1550

Masculine, Cleancut, Athletic, 24
RICK
6', 165#, Lean, Muscle, Hung
2 Weeks Only * Pager 709-1930
CHEW ON THIS.....

My Muscle Butt your Face 626-
RIDE

PISS MASTER
Hot, buffed, 35yo, Top hoses you
down. Beg for it! Marc pgr 709-
0016

PERSONALS

MODELS/ESCORTS

S/M SENSUALITY

-long, & slow- my specialty.
6'2", 185, strong, gymtuned
master into all aspects &
degrees of leatherplay.
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.
Lord 431-0959



Sensual Msg, Escort
& More Hot Jock
Discount for 2 Clients
346-7975 Kevin
Asian Dream

AFTERNOONERS

Handsome Top * Alex 626-2669

HOT FRAT BOY

25, 5'9", 160#, BR/BL, 10x6
HARD, SMOOTH, CUTE, HOT
BRETT, PGR: 739-9854

Gives it* Takes it * See for yourself!

STUDENT

Specializes in Male Pleasure
Gary 764-6326 eves/Wknds. Be
There!

HOT HOT TIMES

28, 5'7", 140#, sexy, smooth, mus-
cular. All scenes 24hrs 253-9984
pgr

CHECHOSLOVAKIAN HOT 19

Uncut, Out only
24 Hours Pager 313-1552
Something Special

Drug-free intelligent 24yo now Avail
for dates, dinner, and more. goody
body, sense of humor and much
More. page 247-8959 + 10. Avail
After 5pm. SF only. \$80-150

Distinguished Age 40
Handsome, Hung, Eight and Thick
\$75 * Dave * 922-3924

LEATHER/SM/FANTASIES

Tough dominant top, 38yo, 6'1",
210#, 7" uncut, blue eyes, flat top,
mustache. Into leather, SM,
bondage, WS, CBT, fantasy, begin-
ner-heavy. Have equipment. Scott
(415)790-0902. In or Out calls

Very Cute College Boy
Brown/Blue/Smooth/Tan/Young
BEAUTIFUL BODY
Giovani 998-3754 In/Out \$100/120

Clean-cut Grad Student

5'10", 155, Brown/Blue
Very cute, Very Versatile.
Call Jason 24 hrs 541-5002

MASSAGE PLUS

Full body Massage by Tall Texan
Attractive Attentive affectionate
6'6", 195#, Blond Beard, Athletic,
\$60/in

WAYNE 252-7443

Lean & Smooth Pussyboy Brat 27,
150lb, 5'10", toned & tanline bod
7" cut & hard with firm whiteboy
butthecks 4 you. Versatile-Vanilla-
Roleplay-SM- core. Eve & wknd Out-
calls Todd * 208-1165

X-otic R-otic & Better tha Valium
Well-Equipped Masseur 715-6410
Brad

** Pornstar Hot Hawaiian Japp **
2 Rockhard, smooth globes of Butt *
* Hungry Hole * Hot * 28, 24hrs
328-5304

JONNI

Passinate White guy 27, 5'7", 1503
Br/Bl 8" thick

BEST BOTTOM BOY

Discreet No Charge
(415) 806-4927

GREEK GOD (25)

Handsome, Athletic, Clean-cut,
Straitgt. 5'10", 165#, 8" thick Don
207-0547

BUTTPLAY

Handsome, Athletic, Clean-cut,
Straight. 5'10", 165#, 8", thick
Don 207-0547

Hot Masculine Top Long Lasting
Fun!!

THE 9X7 CLUB!!!

Antony (415) 431-MALE \$90 24Hrs

★STRICTLY TOP★

Cleancut * Sexy Quality
Hung Long & XXX Thick * 24 Hours
OPEN TO ALL FANTASIES

JAMES 415-861-SEX \$90



Handsome Friendly Clean Cut

Blue Brown 28 6.2 180



HOT BLOODED BUDDY

Hot Dominat top, sexy, extra thick!
Rock hard-throbbing man. Avil 4
fun.
Craig \$85 (415) 431-6253 Call
24hrs

Taxes Friendliness and Good Looks

SEXY SLENDER GUY

6'1", 29" w, 140#, 8", 24yo
Mitch * \$120 * Page: 202-1130

EROTIC

21yr old boy, smooth swimmer's
build 6ft, defined chest & legs 8"
thick uncut, beautiful yummy ass!
Outcalls/Hotels rex 731-4168 Serio-
us only.

MAN WITH A FIST-TOYS

Need a helping hand?
Slow*Easy*Firm I'm great with be-
ginner thru advanced. Gives it up to
Nikos 885-1471 Nob Hill

WHAT'S YOUR

PLEASURE?

Tired of spending money on
Model/Escort only to please hem?
Come and spend time with a fun, ro-
mantic, versatile guy who enjoys
pleasing you!! Take your time, enjoy
yourself. Let me show you what a
good time should be. Steven (510)
975-8464 pager.

ARABAIN NIGHTS?

Right here, geroous Arab boy, fun,
5'8", 150#, dreamy olive eyes.
PAGE: Marco 208-1301
Out/SF?Nite only, After 6pm

Italian Stud, black hair, brn eyes, de-
fined chest & legs, 6ft swimmer's
build, bedroom eyes, beautiful ass,
8" uncut, Outcalls Pref/Hotels Gino
22, 436-0402 Model looks don't you
want it now!

Very good Looking Very Masculine
BEAUTIFUL MUSCLE BOY
Magazine and Video Model
Call Clark 563-5066 Leave Message

SUPER-THICK
UNCUT TOP

Masculine Latin. Clean-cut, athletic
built. goodlooking-satisfying. 24hrs.
Joe (415) 861-7399 8 In/Out
\$85/\$90

26, Tall, Lean, Handsome, Hung

KINK MERCENARY

Filthy, Seductive, Demanding, Top
Extreme Scenes only Kal 764-6627
Well Schooled in our Dark Classics

BLACK HUNK 10"

220 lbs very muscular 431-5923

YOUNG
WATERSTUD

Page 247-8959 your # then 35. \$60

Fresh 22yo, 5'8", 145, 29w, 39c,
Smooth

ASIAN GO-GO BOY

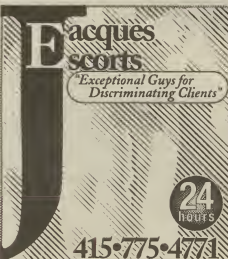
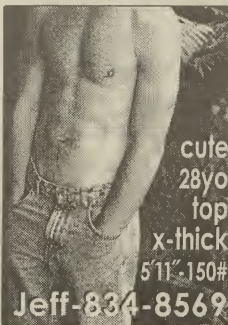
Private strip show w/ erotic muscles
All bay area & ou town travel
Hiu, p(415) 313-9537, \$100 out
(top) wkdays 6pm-12am, wknd-true
fantasies

Foot Fetish * Bpr 834-8170

HOT TOUGH TOP

DOMINANT LEATHERMAN,
SM,BD, WS, CBT, FETISH,
ALL FANTASIES. 38yo,
6'1", 210#, BROWN HAIR,
BLUE EYES, FLAT TOP,
MUSTACHE, 7" UNCUT.
BEGINNER TO HEAVY.
HAVE EQUIPMENT

Scott 415 790-0902 In/Out



YOUNG, TRIM, LEAN
22, 6' 180, cute, hairless, great body,
blue eyes, brown hair, passionate!

BLACK MAGIC
28, African-American, 6' 185, vry
well endowed, smooth, handsome.

MASCULINE ITALIAN
35, 6' 180, brn/brn, lean, handsome,
masculine, muscled hairy chest, hot.

MIDWESTERN COWBOY
28 6'3", 210, brn/hzl, smooth,
muscular, handsome, masculine, fun!

BLONDE/BLUE/MUSCLES
25, 5'9, 180, defined, bl/blu, tan, buff,
handsome, endowed, very hot!

MASCULINE & MUSCULAR
25, 6', 185, brn hair, brn eyes, tight
lean muscular build! Man Pleaser!

MANY OTHERS AVAILABLE!
BAY AREA MALE ESCORT
837-1988

Sexy Goodlooking Tom

HOT ASIAN

Pgr: 280-3735, phone 860-7311

Adam 38, 6'4", 195#, bld/blu, hairy
Handsome, clean-cut, hung, versatile
Top 24hrs page 207-8089

Pecs & Nipple Work by muscular guy
w/ great touch. 100% Exstasy *
773-9130

Sexy black Top Out Only 273-1814

CATHERERS * 241-0567

Experienced Dominator

DAGAN

6ft slim, smooth STUD
Bondage to Butt Play Top
Totally Equipped Playspace
B/D, F/F, T/T, C/B/T, V/A, Whip,
Spnk.
Safe Sane Scenes Only
Hot, Healthy, Handsome
647-4159

HOT & HUNG JR. EXEC.

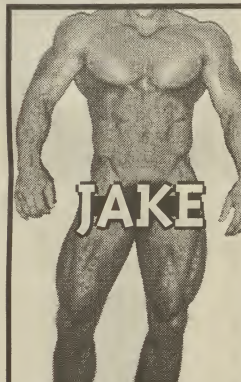
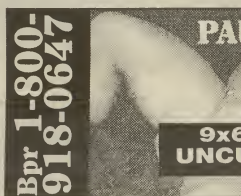
30 yo, 6'3", 200, brn/blue, gotee,
versatile, 24hrs (415) 921-8607



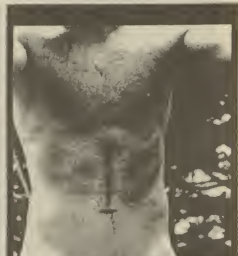
MASCULINE
BUTCH-HUNG
baseball biceps, hard buffed
body with a powertool ready
for action. Pgr 207-6786

MASCULINE

muscular hard hairy pecs
tall handsome hung 9
TOM 764-6280



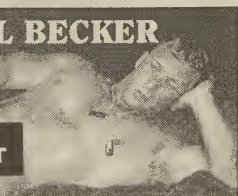
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Now Serving San Francisco
and Los Angeles
<http://www.boys2men.com>



Masculine, athletic,
well hung, attractive
page (415)
KURT 201-
Mature men \$100/out
Hotel calls welcome

3 HOT ASIANS

21, Goodlooking
call Lon 788-0380




6' 235lbs
COMP. BB
**Ripped
Rock Hard
&
Super Hung**
(510) 526-8865

MODELS/ESCORTS



ITALIAN


807-9822



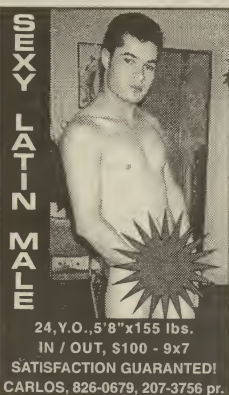
Extremely Attractive

27 yrs
5'10"
#165
Blond

Scott
280-0821



TONY 709-3266 BPR \$100



SEXY LATIN MALE

24, Y.O., 5'8"x155 lbs.
IN / OUT, \$100 - 9x7
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!
CARLOS, 826-0679, 207-3756 pr.

We're Looking for Models & PORN STARZ!

Call The Daddy L Model Search Line:
415-673-1284

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ITALIAN BODY

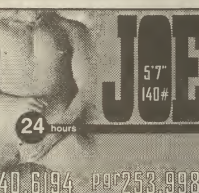
Body Builder, 230 Lbs.
6'1", 50" Ch, 20" A
25 Years Old
From Italy
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DAVID



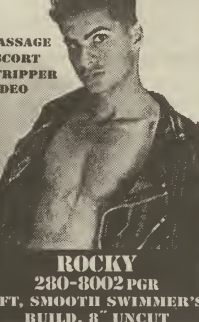
TALL
HAIRY
HUNG

363-4847



JOE
5'7"
140#
24 hours
440.6194 pr 253.9984

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LATIN

smooth & sensual great looks
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ENTHUSIASTIC BOTTOM
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20 YO ASIAN

Tell me your fantasy pg. 741-5452

In shape well hung top 273-1814

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